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Price twenty pence

Jobless still under 3 million

Unemployment in Britain fell last month to 2,954,414, or 12.2 per cent of the total workforce, thus again avoiding the politically embarrassing 3 million mark just before the Crosby by-election. The main cause of the decrease was a drop in unemployed school leavers. Adult jobless, however, rose to 11.4 per cent Page 17

Loan rate cut shakes dollar

The dollar took a sharp knock on international currency markets yesterday as several American banks reduced their prime lending rates. A further fall in interest rates is expected Page 17

£110m increase subsidy to BR

British Rail's passenger subsidy is to be raised by £110.4m to compensate for traffic lost through the recession. The amount is more generous than had been expected, but BR will still lose £60m on its passenger business this year Page 2



Curb on foreign bank bids shelved

The Cabinet's economic strategy committee shelved a plan to legislate against foreign takeovers of British banks prompted by the Bank of England's disquiet over a £500m bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland Back page

Cut-price fares from BA

Discounted British Airways tickets, hitherto available only through "bucket shops", will be sold by normal travel agents under an experimental scheme starting on January 1. Discounts will average 25 per cent Page 17

Saudis under the spotlight

The Arab summit opens in Fez today with the Saudi delegation in a, for them, novel position under the spotlight, trying to sell the Fahd plan for a Middle East settlement to the hard-line states Page 7

Labour post for women's rights

Miss Joan Lestor, a member of the Labour Party's national executive, will be responsible for women's rights and welfare, a new post in the Shadow Cabinet announced by Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader Page 2

Scarman report on sale today

About 4,500 copies of the Scarman report on last summer's riots, five times the usual initial print run for a Stationery Office publication, will be available in London and seven other cities from 11 am today. Only 50 copies will be available at the Stationery Office bookshop in Manchester, one of the cities worst affected by the riots.

Scarman profile, page 11

Britain accepts less immigrants

Britain accepted 13,600 fewer immigrants in the year ended September 30 last. The drop was caused mainly by falling immigration from the New Commonwealth and Pakistan and a decline in refugees

Rush to leave, page 4

British oil rig drifts out of control in North Sea

By Staff Reporters

A British oil rig with 20 people on board was last night still adrift out of control in the North Sea in gale-force winds and mountainous seas after a day of high drama and appalling weather that saw 66 oil rig workers airlifted to safety.

Earlier a 27,660-tonne Norwegian service platform vessel, the Sedco/Phillips SS, which had also dragged an anchor had threatened to collide with the Tor platform in the Ekofisk field causing a major catastrophe. Last night, however, Phillips said the vessel was under control in a safe position 2,100 feet from the Tor platform.

The British rig, the Transworld 58, which operates in the Argyll field, was last night drifting slowly south-east, 200 miles south-east of Aberdeen with four tugs shadowing her, hoping to put a line on board. But winds of 60 miles an hour and 30-40ft waves were hampering their efforts. A spokesman for Hamilton Brothers, the rig's operators, siad none of the men, who include two divers still in decompression chambers, were in danger, and that the situation was stable.

Gale force winds and heavy seas

"We are in communication with the unit, but obviously we are anxious to have it back under tow as soon as possible", he said. At the rate the rig was moving it was 70 hours away from the nearest installations in the Derry field.

The Meteorological Office was forecasting a slow improvement in the weather, but with heavy seas and gale force winds continuing.

Earlier in the day 48 oil workers had been lifted from the 9,200-tonne rig, after it broke eight of its 12 anchors in waves tha reached 60 feet, and winds that gusted to 100 mph. Forty-four of those rescued were taken to Stavanger in Norway, and four to a nearby rig, by Bristow Sikorski S 61 helicopters from Aberdeen. A skeleton crew of 20 was left on board.

Eighteen non-essential workers were also airlifted from the Norwegian platform vessel, 30 miles north of the British rig's original position. They were taken to the Henrik Ibsen accommodation platform in the Ekofisk field, seven miles away. Ninety-four men remained on board the vessel, but the company said it hoped to remove a furher 26 non-essential workers from the support vessel when the weather permitted. Oil production in both the Argyll and Tor fields ceased early yeserday.

During the day eight men were rescued from the Palmyra, a fishing vessel, off Peterhead, and North Sea ferry services were severly disrupted.

Anticipating bad weather the Transworld had shut down production at noon on Monday, closing its subsea valves. But in the early morning three anchor chains snapped in the huge seas and the crew donned survival suits. The rig began to lose its balance, more chains snapped, and the crew themselves cut thre eother anchors to allow it to drift and prevent it capsizing. By last night it had drifted ten miles east-south-east of the Argyll field.

At 7.30 am the Bristow helicopters flew from Aberdeen to land on the pitching rig to evacuate the men. The rig eventually lost all 12 of its anchors, which each weigh between 2,000 and 3,000 pounds. As it began to drift it narrowly missed a 200 tonne tanker mooring buoy.

Meanwhile a potential disaster was being averted 30 miles to the north in the Ekofisk field, the scene of the Alexander Kielland disaster last year in which 123 people died.

The service platform vessel Sedco/Phillips broke one of its eight anchors and began to slew in heavy seas towards the Tor production platform 750 feet away. According to RAF and Norwegian rescue services, the platform drited to within 250 feet of the platform where a collision would have led to a major disaster. According to Phillips, however, the platform was halted 500 feet away when the anchor-handling vessel Tender Power got an emergency wire on board.

Preparations were made to take it under tow if necessary. The vessel, however, unlike the Transworld 58, has self-propulsion and all but two of the anchors were released. Last night the rig was stable 2,100 feet from the Tor platform.

A spokesman for Phillips described the situation as "not quite normal, but not critical".

The Sedco/Phillips SS is, like the Transworld 58, a semi-submersible vessel which provides emergency and maintenance facilities to other rigs. It has an elaborate superstructure of cranes, with a machine shop, small hospital and fire-fighting equipment. Built by the Japanese firm Mitsubishi, it has operated in the Greater Ekofisk area since 1978.

The Transworld 58 is a converted drilling rig, the first to be changed from drilling to oil and gas production and has operated in the Argyll field since 1975. Owned by Dover Oil and Gas, and built in the Netherlands, it produces 19,000 barrels of oil a day from the Argyll field.

One of the helicopter pilots called out to the Transworld, Captain Andrew Zgolinski, said: "The winds were in excess of 60 knots, and there were rain and snow showers. It was approaching the limits where it is possible to fly a helicopter. It was not so much a question of landing but of trying to keep the helicopter on the heli-deck.

Crew decide to stay on board

"The aircraft was actually flying, even though the wheels were touching down as we were getting the crew on to the aircraft. We were trying to hold it down and keep it from blowing offthe deck".

Last night a row erupted over the rescue of eight crew from the trawler Palmyra, when it got into difficulties off Peterhead. It issued a mayday cal when it began taking water and a Nimrod involved in the rig operation was diverted to it. The Scottish Coastguard said the trawler had not given a clear indentification and RAF rescue said that when a winchman went on to the vessel, six of the eight crew insisted on remaining on board, asking for a pump.

The aircraft headed for the Forties field to collect one, but had twice to return to the vessel before the remaining crew agreed to abandon it. Last night it was low in the water and a service vessel was sailing towards it to see if it could be saved.

Night of fear, page 2

Caged defendants: Some of the 24 men—four charged with the murder of President Sadat of Egypt and 20 with having taken part in the plot—are seen in a grilled dock during their trial which has opened in the Red Mountain military camp, in Egypt. The trial has so far been held in public. The prosecution has demanded the death penalty for all the defendants

Referendum plan is dead, Heseltine indicates

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Conservative backbenchers were left in little doubt last night that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has dropped his controversial proposal to require councils putting up rates beyond a given limit to hold referendums.

Although he did not formally anounce a decision, and was not expected to do so, he said enough to prompt several MPs leaving a joint meeting of the party's backbench environment and finance committees to voice the opinion that the referendum was dead.

Mr Heseltine also gave the meeting the impression that the Government was preparing to legislate in the next session of Parliament on the reform of the rating system.

He was said to have gone slightly further than Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who indicated in the Commons earlier that the Government would legislate "in the present Parliament". Mr Heseltine was said to have made clear that the Government felt consultations on the Green Paper on alternatives to the rating system, to be published next month, would be completed in time for legislation next session.

Backbenchers went into last night's meeting heartened by the Prime Minister's confirmation at Question Time of her desire to move speedily on the abolition of the present rating system.

She told MPs that it would be "advisable" for the Government to bring forward a Bill during the present Parliament.

She said: "I would have to make clear that the revenue which comes in from the rating system, domestic rates and industrial and commercial rates, would have to be replaced from revenue elsewhere". As Labour MPs laughed she retorted: "One cannot have expenditure which is not covered by taxation".

Private armies will not take over the policing of Ulster says Prior

From Tim Jones and Christopher Thomas, Belfast

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said last night that the Government would not allow private armies in the province to take over the work of the police and the Army.

And he repeated his assurance that the Government has no plans to push Northern Ireland into a united Ireland and "has never had any such plan. Those who claim that such plans exist can produce no evidence of them and only stir up groundless fears", he said.

The warning on the private armies came as the British and Irish governments considered the longer-term impact of Monday's Day of Action by the Rev Ian Paisley which, although in itself generally unimpressive, culminated in a chilling display of paramilitary strength after nightfall.

Mr Paisley still appears to be at odds with the big Protestant paramilitary groups in the province who look with scepticism upon his Third Force and seem determined not to actively assist him.

By raising among Protestants the spectre of a united Ireland, Mr Paisley has touched the raw nerve of every unionist and he will eb anxious to capitalize on the fear he has engendered:

Mr Andy Tyrie, chairman of the Ulster Defence Association, the biggest Protestant paramilitary organization, said dismissively that the Third Force obviously had a lot to learn.

"We have been through it all before. If they are going to take on the IRA they wil have big problems. The IRA is one of the greatest killing machines ever given to Europe. We are not sure what the Third Force is all about. Where is the war that was to have started today? They have marched and marched and nothing has changed."

In a clear reference to Mr Paisley's Third Force, Mr Prior said: "The Government will not alow private armies to take over the work of the police and the Army. The Government wil not adopt methods which abandon the rule of law or which are intended to punish the innocent."

It was, he said, in the interests of the people of the United Kingdom that there should be close and friendly relations with the Government of the Republic of Ireland, particularly on security. "Her Majesty's Government will not be deterred from its policy".

Predictably Mr Paisley was not impressed by the assurances and continued to insist yesterday that the Anglo-Irish talks were geared to involving Dublin directly in the affairs of Northern Ireland and eventually to put them into an all-Ireland state.

Mr Prior's actions, he said, gave the lie to his words. And he promised that unless Mrs Margaret Thatcher abandoned her "madness" the Third Force would move again.

"I am not saying what the next step will be in detail. It will have to be done in such a way that the Government will really be shaking. There is not going to be any notice of it. It will be extreme action."

In spite of Mr Prior's warnings, members of the Third Force said yesterday they were ready at short notice to go to protect any homes along the border. Mr Birt Johnston, one of its officers in co Fermanagh, said: "We are not going to guard people and not have guns. Guns will have to be used. These will be legally held firearms".

In Belfast, Stephen Murphy, aged 19, a Roman Catholic youth shot by two gunmen at his home in the Old Park area of the city within hours of the murder of the Rev Robert Bradford, died yesterday. No organization admitted responsibility

□ The British Council of Churches yesterday condemned as a betrayal of Ulster the tactics employed by Mr Paisley in his day of action and his proposals for a third force.

At its autumn meeting in London, the council, composed mainly of Protestant churches, overwhelmingly endorsed the criticism of the day of action made by the Irish Council of Churches last week and went on to condemn actions "which place sections of the population, whether majority or minority, in fear for their lives".

Photograph, page 2

Longford accuses an angry Hailsham

By Hugh Noyes,
Parliamentary Correspondent

Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Longford, clashed angrily in the House of Lords yesterday over the claim made in an article in *The Sunday Times* that the judiciary had thwarted penal reforms proposed by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, aimed at reducing the prison population.

Both peers accused each other of not telling the truth when Lord Longford, noted for his lengthy campaigns for prison reforms, repeated the allegations made in the article.

Lord Hailsham intervened angrily as a debate opened on the letter in *The Times* from the governor of Wormwood Scrubs, Mr John McCarthy, describing the prison as a penal dustbin. Lord Longford, complaining about the alleged action of the judiciary, had just finished telling the House that it was totally wrong that the Home Secretary should be thwarted by the judiciary.

The judiciary, he said, were the custodians of our legal standards in this country and they of all people should never place themselves above the law.

Rising from the Woolsack, Lord Hailsham angrily told the House: "There is absolutely no truth in the suggestion that the judiciary have thwarted the Home Secretary, even if they had the power to do that".

At that point, charge and counter charge between the two came at breakneck speed. Lord Longford snapped back that there was not a word of truth in what the Lord Chancellor had said. Lord Hailsham replied: "I do not know on what authority the noble lord is questioning my words". He had been to great pains to discover the truth.

Lord Hailsham explained that the judiciary were consulted and expressed their view as they were entitled to do.

Turning towards Long Longford, the Lord Chancellor demanded to know whether he was challenging him when he said on his word of honour that the allegations were untrue.

But Lord Longford was in no mood to withdraw anything. It was the Lord Chancellor, he said, who had challenged the truth of what he had said.

Lord Hailsham again jumped angrily to his feet. To suggest that the judiciary was seeking to thwart the will of Parliament which had not so far been expressed in an Act of Parliament, was wholly untrue. Lord Longford then embarked on another attack, suggesting that the judiciary was thwarting the will of the people as expressed by the Home Secretary by imposing too lengthy sentences.

Lord Hailsham again exploded from the Woolsack. Lord Longford, he said, was now making a different accusation. These attacks on the judges were without foundation and should be withdrawn.

But it was Lord Longford who got in the last word. "I repeat every word that I have said", he said defiantly.

Matthews sacks Stevens at Express

By Roger Berthoud

Mr Jocelyn Stevens has been dismissed "with immediate effect" from his position as deputy chairman and managing director of Express Newspapers. The unexpected news came in a bleak statement from Lord Matthews, the chief executive of Trafalgar House, the conglomerate which controls the *Daily Express*, *Sunday Express* and *Daily Star*.

It said: "Lord Matthews announced today that Mr J. E. G. Stevens is leaving the Express Newspapers Group with immediate effect, and his executive responsibilities are for the present being taken up by the deputy managing director, Mr M. J. Murphy". The statement did not mention tha Mr Mike Murphy handed in his resignation two weeks ago on being offered the post of deputy managing director of News Group, publishers of *The Sun* and *News of the World*. It is not known when he will be released from his contract.

Lord Matthews would throw no further light yesterday on the reasons for the abrupt departure of the mercurial Mr Stevens, whose association with the group began in 1968, when he became personal assistant to Sir Max Aitken, then chairman of Beaverbrook Newspapers, which Trafalgar House took over in 1977. It is understood that he was told to depart at a meeting on Monday afternoon of part of the board of Express Newspapers, at which Lord Matthews was present.



Mr S[illegible]: Different views of the future.

Although relations between Mr Stevens and Lord Matthews a down-to-earth man with a background in building, had never been easy, the break is thought to have been caused by specific differences over the future policy of the Express newspapers. Although the *Daily Star*, launched in November 1978, has done better than many observers expected (its circulation averaged 1,500,501 in the April/September quarter, against 1,061,565 in the same period last year), the group has suffered like the rest of Fleet Street from sharply increased costs. Only the *Sunday Express*, which launched an expensive colour supplement in April, has maintained its profitability. How the group should respond to the threat to its circulation posed by the launch next spring of Associated Newspapers' *Mail on Sunday* may have played a role in Mr Stevens's departure.

The man being tipped yesterday to step into his shoes was Mr Bert Hardy, managing director of the *Standard*, and previously the chief executive officer of Mr Rupert Murdoch's News Group. His translation might, however, displease Lord Rothermere's Associated Newspapers, whose *Evening News* was last autumn merged with the *Evening Standard* within a jointly controlled company with its own board.

Mr Stevens' first substantial job with the Express Group was as the *Evening Standard's* managing director from 1969-1972. There he enjoyed considerable success in improving its circulation and profitability. He had earlier attracted Sir Max Aitken's attention as the brilliantly successful if flamboyant proprietor of the hitherto obscure *Queen* magazine, which he had bought in 1957, at the age of 25, with part of an inheritance from his grandfather Sir Edward Hulton.

Queen magazine became part of the swinging sixties, and attracted much advertising. But if the *Evening Standard* responded to Stevens's mixture of bright ideas and hard work,

Continued on back page, col 1

Brezhnev wants to cut arms says Schmidt

From Patrick Clough and Michael Binyon,
Bonn, Nov 24

On the final day of talks between President Brezhnev and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, it became clear that East and West are still far apart on the crucial issue of arms control.

But Herr Schmidt told his Social Democrat parliamentary party that he had no doubt of the Soviet Union's serious intention to achieve substantial reductions on medium-range missiles in the Geneva negotiations beginning on Monday.

After spending much of the talks trying to persuade Mr Brezhnev that President Reagan was serious in wanting agreement on arms control, Herr Schmidt said tonight it was "more than clear that the Soviet leadership cannot correctly evaluate the intentions of the American leadership".

It is suggested there that the Russians are being deliberately sceptical about the Americans' sincerity in order to present themselves as the real champions of peace, possibly to give added encouragement to the European peace movement.

Another point of disagreement remains the matching up and balancing of weapons systems. Herr Kurt Becker, the German spokesman, said there had been little argument in the talks over the number of individual weapons on each side, but neither could agree which categories should be placed against each other and discussed in Geneva.

But the Chancellor said he was fulwly satisfied with the talks. The West Germans had, and would continue to have, the duty to act as interpreters of the Western position.

"No one could expect, and we at least did not expect that seven days before the beginning of the negotiations in Geneva the Soviet Union would be prepared to correct or change its negotiating position or even hint at concessions", he said.

It was evident, he added, that the Soviet Union shared his view that the Geneva negotiations should be conducted stage by stage, rather than attempting global treatment of all European-based nuclear missiles at once.

The Chancellor said both sides had been clear and very honest with each other and the atmosphere had been friendly. But in public the talks have been accompanied by barrages of propaganda and polemics. Mr Leonid Zamyatin, the Soviet spokesman, this morning verged on rudeness in flatly contradicting Herr Becker, asserting that the West German suggestion the Russians had misunderstood Mr Reagan was false. They had fully understood his offer, he said, and found it completely unacceptable as it was only verbal propaganda.

The Soviet spokesman showed how sensitive the Russians are over the question of Mr Brezhnev's health. Herr Becker said Herr Schmidt, speaking as a man who himself had just been ill, had been impressed by the Soviet leader's good physical conditioin and stamina. But Mr Zamyatin, evidently misunderstanding, attacked Herr Becker, declaring Mr Brezhnev was fully able to support a rigorous timetable.

Today was indeed a strenuous time for him. He had separate meetings with all four Parliamentary leaders—Herr Willy Brandt, Herr Helmut Kohl, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Herr Franz Josef Strauss.

□ The Soviet daily *Pravda* censored references to Soviet missiles, Afghanistan and grain imports when it printed the text of a speech given by Herr Schmidt in Bonn on Monday night (Reuter reports from Moscow).

Birthday tribute, back page

Rescued oilmen's night of fear on crippled rig

From Craig Seton, Stavanger, Norway

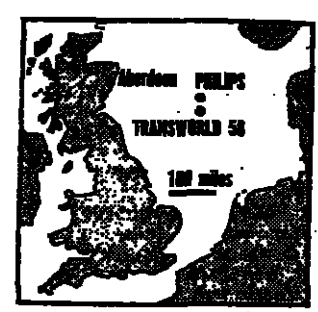
Forty-eight British oil workers who were airlifted off a platform adrift in the North Sea, yesterday described their dramatic rescue after a frightening night during which waves of up to 60ft snapped the rig's anchor chains one by one.

The men, lifted off the Transworld 58 in the Argyll field at first light yesterday by two Bristow Sikorski helicopters, gave the airmen a round of applause as they touched down safely at Stavanger airport. The helicopters had fought against winds of up to 100 mph to complete the rescue.

In Stavanger last night the helicopter crews played down the drama of the operation and described it as "very satisfying" because it had been completed so successfully.

Oil workers from the production platform said winds had been of hurricane force. They left behind 22 colleagues, including two divers still in a decompression chamber after waves had snapped eight of the rig's 12 anchor chains.

The men described as frightening their experiences as the platform started drifting 160 miles off Aberdeen, narrowly missing a huge 200-ton tanker mooring buoy. Weary from more than 24 hours without sleep and still dressed in their orange survival suits, the men



telephoned anxious families to say they were safe.

Mr Brian Mitchell, a member of the Transworld 58 production team from Aberdeen, said of the rescue: "It was a cracking job by the helicopter crews. All we can say is thanks to them for a wonderful job in getting us off in such appalling conditions."

Mr Gus Angus, aged 34, a production electrician, said of the platform crew's harrowing night: "We just have to say we got away with this time. But of course, we will all go back out there as soon as the weather has changed."

An assistant driller, who did not want to be named, said: "We could hear the anchor chains snapping and then the shudder and vibration aboard the platform. When we went out on deck to cut three chains, a wave came on board and hit us and we had to hang on. We were 60ft from sea level at that time".

Mr Paul Warbrick, a married man from Redcar, said there had been no panic. The men had lined up in their survival suits and with life-jackets waiting for the helicopters to arive.

After lifting the men off, the Sikorskis landed on another platform to refuel and the passengers watched in amazement as one of the refuellers was blown of his feet.

Mr Martin Saxby, aged 30, a diver, of Pitsea, in Essex, said that he had had to wake up two other divers on board the Transworld 58 while they were still in a decompression chamber to tell them that most of the crew were leaving.

Mr Saxby said the divers, John Grimliss, of Hull, and Douglas Worrell, of Surrey, responded to the news good humouredly. "They could not come out of the chamber, so there was not a lot they could do about it, but they were vehy cheerful".

Captain Malcolm Soper, who piloted one of the Sikorskis, said the operation had been very satisfying. "It went pretty well, according to plan," he said. "The only thing was the wind. It was stronger than we expected".

The other Sikorski was piloted by Captain Andrew Zgolinski. The rest of the two crews were Captain John Follis, Captain Robert Bolton-King, and the two winchmen, Christopher Bond and Colin Larcombe.

□ The Transworld 58 bears no similarities to the Alexander Kielland, the floating dormitory which capsized in the North Sea last year with the loss of 123 lives (Tony Samstag writes).

That disaster was the result of poor design and consruction, fast safety precautions and "inferior welding" in a support strut, according to an official Norwegian report. By contrast, the Transworld had lost its moorings.

□ Hamilton Brothers Oil and Gas, which operates the Transworld 58, would give no information on the insurance of the rig but according to sources in the London insurance market it is insured in New York at a value thought to be about $50m (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).

The oil rig drama comes less tha na week after the chairman of the Institute of London Underwriters, Mr Geoffrey Merriman, gave a warning of the tremendous risks in the North Sea. Mr Merriman said that on latest estimates rigs and platforms with about $60,000m were covered in the North Sea.

The Alexander Kielland disasterinvolved a total payout of £20m from the Lloyd's insurance market.

Left-wing threat to sweep away judiciary

By Our Political Correspondent

A threat to sweep away the judicial system, including courts and judges, was issued by left-wing Labour activists last night.

The latest issue of *London Labour Briefing*, the activists' voice in the capital, claimed that Lord Denning's judgment on the Greater London Council's fares cuts policy was a threat to socialism.

The bulletin said that the issue posed a question of power, and asked: "Is the electoral and parliamentary road to socialism possible? Or will we be driven to seeking alternative means?" Its answer was that if the courts declared the law of the elected GLC invalid, then socialists would have no choice but to answer in kind.

"Let them be warned" the bulletin stated, "when courts and judges, with all their magisterial splendour, render themselves illegal in the eyes of the people, then they invite us—the moment we are strong enough—to sweep them away."

A bold advertisement in the middle of the article draws attention to a meeting organized by the publication to be addressed by Mr Wedgwood Benn, Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, and Mr Kenneth Livingstone, Leader of the GLC, next month.

London Labour Briefing said that if the courts could challenge the moderate and socially necessary London fares policy, they could attempt to crush a future Labour government committed to left-wing policies.

Mr Benn today proposes his own version of left-wing mobilization in a discussion published in the latest issue of *Marxism Today*. In his article Mr Benn says that last May's People's March for Jobs represented the people's voice for a different society.

"It was a way of communicating that was immediate, that was direct, that involved people in doing something, and out of which will come a perception that we must move them away from the structure of society as it now exists."

Mr L DOLIVET

On Monday, November 23, *The Times* incorrectly reported that Mr Louis Dolivet "was approached at Cambridge in the 1930s by Anthony Blunt". This was caused by a printing error. The reporter's original copy read in full: "After marrying Beatrice Straight, the film actress sister of Michael Straight, who was approached at Cambridge in the 1930s by Anthony Blunt, Mr Dolivet founded a magazine called *Free World*." Mr Dolivet married Beatrice Straight in 1940. *The Times* apologizes for the inadvertent error and accepts that Mr Dolivet never met Anthony Blunt.



The Duke of Edinburgh and Mr Jimmy Savile with patients at Stoke Mandeville hospital yesterday, when the Duke laid the foundation-stone for a new spinal injuries unit. An appeal led by Mr Savile has so far raised £6m for the unit, which will cost £7m to £9m and is expected to open in 1983.

Silkin and Heffer accept key posts in Shadow Cabinet

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, announced yesterday the appointment of two prominent left-wingers to the newly created Shadow Cabinet posts of defence and disarmament, and European and Community affairs.

Mr John Silkin, who remains as Shadow Leader of the House, has taken on the additional role of defence spokesman. He is a confirmed unilateralist.

Mr Eric Heffer, a well versed anti-Marketeer, becomes the official Labour spokesman on Europe. His role will include detailed preparation for a British withdrawal, and he will not work under Mr Denis Healey, the Shadow Foreign Secretary.

But it emerged after the announcement that the appearances of an important shift in front bench direction could well be deceptive.

Senior right-wingers took the appointments with equanimity. They hold the view that Mr Foot will still be working for long-term fudge and compromise on the hardline decisions taken by last month'st party conference; that is for unilateral nuclear disarmament and EEC ithdrawal without referendum.

Mr Wedgwood Benn, who has campaigned most forcefully for Labour's Front Bench to reflect conference decisions, was notably silent on the appointments yesterday. Friends said he would make no comment.

The most telling statements of all came from Mr Silkin, who fought the Labour deputy leadership contest on the basis of conference decisions, adding that Britain should hand over its nuclear weapons to the United Nations Security Council.

Yesterday, in an interview with Sir Robin Day on the *World at One* programme on Radio 4, he agreed that he was a unilateralist, but then appeared to qualify that statement in every way possible.

The left-wing test of unilateralism, as applied by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, hinges on the preparedness of politicians to set an example for unilateral disarmament by the straightforward act of unilateral nuclear renunciation.

Mr Silkin said yesterday, however: "When it comes to the question of nuclear disarmament for Britain itself, if we can get multilateral nuclear disarmament as well, the other one becomes of less importance."

The message appears to be that there would be no unilateral disarmament without multilateral disarmament, and that link was illustrated by Mr Silkin's comments on his working relationship with Mr Denis Healey, a multilateralist. Mr Silkin said: "Perhaps there is a way of linking the two together and we can work together, as I always thought we could, because both of us are multilateral nuclear disarmers."

□ Mr Heffer is likely to accompany Mr Foot when he visits Strasbourg on February 9 for a full day's discussion with the socialist group of the European Parliament about Labour's plan for withdrawal from the EEC (George Clark writes).

Mr Foot frankly acknowledged in the discussion yesterday that some of the socialist parties in Europe did not understand why the British Labour Party should want to take Britain out of the European Community. Much explaining had to be done.

Labour's front bench appointments are: (asterisk indicates member of the Parliamentary Committee):

Deputy Leader and Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs	*Mr Denis Healey	Industry	*Mr Stanley Orme
		Scotland	*Mr Bruce Millan
		European and Community Affairs	*Mr Eric Heffer
Treasury and Economic Affairs	*Mr Peter Shore	Legal Affairs	*Mr Peter Archer, QC
		Health Service	*Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody
Environment	*Mr Gerald Kaufman	Food, Agriculture, Fisheries	Mr Norman Buchan
Home Affairs	*Mr Roy Hattersley		
Leader of the House and Defence and Disarmament	*Mr John Silkin	Women's Rights and Welfare	Miss Joan Lestor
		Wales	Mr Alec Jones
Employment	*Mr Eric Varley	Northern Ireland	Mr Dennis Concannon
Energy	*Mr Merlyn Rees	Overseas Development	Mr Frank McElhone
Education	*Mr Neil Kinnock		
Transport	*Mr Albert Booth	Regional Affairs	Mr John Prescott
Trade, Prices and Consumer Protection	*Mr John Smith	Science	Mr Tam Dalyell
		Civil Service	Mr Alan Williams
		Arts	Mr Andrew Faulds
Social Security	*Mr Brynmor John	The Disabled	Mr Alfred Morris

Rippon loses Tory foreign affairs job

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Geoffrey Rippon, the Conservative former Cabinet minister, was removed from the chairmanship of the backbench foreign affairs committee last night in a voting coup organized by right-wingers.

The party's left and centre were furious at being outflanked. They regarded Mr Ripon's replacement by Mr Ray Whitney, MP for Wycombe and a former diplomat, as revenge for his recent attacks on the economic strategy being pursued by the Government.

The right, angry at Mr Rippon for appearing to offer himself during October as a potential challenger to Mrs Margaret Thatcher as leader of the party, apparently whipped all their available voting strength to oust him.

Mr Rippon's supporters, although aware that the election was taking place, were unaware that his position was in danger and failed to attend in sufficient numbers.

Mr Robert Rhodes James, MP for Cambridge, said last night: "It is a disaster that a former Cabinet minister should be replaced by a fairly unknown backbencher".

ELECTRONIC EAR FOR THE DEAF

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

After successful trials of a treatment for deafness by direct electronic stimulus of the nerve cells which carry auditory signals from the ear to the brain, Dr Gerard Vaughan, the Minister for Health, has been asked to make the procedure more widely available.

The treatment involves minor surgical intervention, and its pioneers say the technique should be used only for adults who are completely deaf.

The request to allow several centres to provide the treatment is made in a special report to the Minister by Professor Edward Evans, of Keele University, where much of the basic research was done, and by the surgeons.

Professor Evans's team has been in close cooperation with groups in America and Australia who for 10 years have been developing ways of electronically stimulating the auditory nerve in the inner ear. But a research group at Guy's Hospital has adopted a simpler scheme that allows the electronic connexions to be made by a probe into the bone from a device attached to the outer part of the ear, rather than their counterparts' more complicated method of implanting tiny wires into the inner ear.

However, electrical impulses from tiny electrodes, connected to a normal hearing aid, will provide a stimulus to the auditory nerve.

Government setback for sixth-form colleges

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Supporters of tertiary and sixth form colleges received a further blow yesterday with the publication in a draft circular of the Government's views on post-16 education provision. Those hoping for clear guidance on how to proceed will be disappointed.

The circular, issued by the Department of Education and Science in the wake of the Government's rejection of Manchester's plans to set up sixth form colleges in place of school sixth forms throughout the city, talks of the need for local authorities to retain schools of proven worth and to have regard to parents' wishes for single-sex schools.

From now on, the Secretary of State will not normally approve "proposals which have as their consequence the closure or significant change of character of schools which, by demonstrating their success in the provision they make for sixth form education, have already proved their worth under existing arrangements and in his judgment can continue to do so", the circular says.

The only exception to that general rule would be where the Secretary of State was satisfied that the case for the schools' preservation was outweighed by "other compelling educational considerations". A loophole is there, but it has been left undefined.

Likewise, no definition is given of what constitutes a school of proven worth beyond saying that it should have a successful sixth form; but what, in its turn, constitutes a successful sixth form is also left unexplained.

The decision by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to single out three comprehensives in Manchester as schools of proven worth which would have been damaged by the city's reorganization plans has already brought predictable protests from other schools which claim that they, too, are good schools which should be allowed to keep their sixth forms in any future scheme.

It is now known that the rejection of Manchester's plans was taken, after much agonizing by Sir Keith against the advice of all his senior officials, including Miss Sheila Browne, the head of the Schools Inspectorate, and of Sir James Hamilton, the permanent secretary.

The draft circular reminds local authorities of the Government's earlier request for authorities who have not already done so to undertake a comprehensive review of their schools stock in the light of the rapidly falling number of pupils in secondary schools.

□ Lancashire County Council decided yesterday to abandon plans to stop paying fees for 635 pupils entering the sixth forms of independent schools from next September (the Press Association reports).

Heath opens intelligence corporation

By Peter Hennessy

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, yesterday launched an international private enterprise intelligence-gathering agency for businessmen and anybody else prepared to pay between £15,707 and £131,000 a year.

Once fully operational in 1983, International Reporting Information Systems, or IRIS, will stand alongside the acronyms of better known public sector organizations such as the CIA, KGB, and MI6.

Speaking in the Connaught Rooms in central London, Mr Heath, who chairs IRIS's international advisory council, said its purpose was to improve trade, especially between developed and developing countries, by furnishing decision-makers with accurate, up-to-date information about political and economic conditions in all parts of the world.

Mr Heath, who, as Prime Minister between 1970 and 1974 was responsible for Britain's clandestine intelligence agencies, said he had checked on IRIS "through the normal means" before agreeing to chair its board. He was certain it was "absolutely clean". To attach a James Bond image to it was "fantasy".

Harnessing a large computer facility in Washington to publish material, plus special reports from its 96 "correspondents" throughout the world (many of whom will be political journalists), analysts in IRIS headquarters will supply material through terminals

To use IRIS's jargon, subscribers will be able to call up for any nation a "country factor analysis", details of its business climate with analysts—"a current example would be Islamic fundamentalists in Egypt". Details will also be provided of important public personalities, "political scenarios", and "quantitative scenario models".

Mr Anthony Stout, managing director of IRIS, whose Washington-based Government Research Corporation publishes the highly respected weekly magazine, *National Journal*, said the genesis of the new organization was the shock afforded to multinational companies by the Iranian revolution.

The main shareholders of IRIS, whose initial funding is about £5.24m, include Henry Ansbacher and Company, the Government Research Corporation, the Skandia Group, and the Seascope Overseas Corp



Dream debut: Mrs Gill Short, aged 28, of Bideford, Devon, who has a son aged 10, holding her latest arrival, Martin, born on Sunday after being conceived by the new test tube method.

Feast day for church of 'Thunderer' family

By Hugh Clayton

Christmas was scarred for a Victorian businessman one year by the death of a favourite daughter at the age of 22. He decided to create a suitable and lasting memorial near his family seat in Berkshire, and with the forthrightness of his caste placed immediate orders for a church with all fixtures and fittings.

Some three years later it was handed over, complete with two bells and a 90-foot tower, to house them for slightly less than £9,000. The family seat is now a college, and part of the estate has been badly damaged by vandals.

But despite persistent dry rot St Catherine's Church, Bearwood, near Wokingham, has survived intact for 134 years as a monument to Catherine Walter, granddaughter of the founder of *The Times* and sister of the John Walter under whose dominance it acquired influence, wealth and the nickname "The Thunderer".

The church is no longer the chapel for the family and servants of the Walter estate. If it were one of the many nineteenth century churches which squat awkwardly among railway yards and modern concrete developments, it would probably excite little but local interest. It is typical Victorian gothic, with the narrow, tall appearance which distinguishes many such edifices from their medieval originals.

Today is the Feast of St Catherine, and the Rev Ivor Dowse, Rector of Bearwood since last summer, intends to mark the day by opening a society called the Friends of St Catherine's. The first patrons have been named as Sir John Betjeman, the Poet Laureate and connoisseur of Victoriana, Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of Times Newspapers, and Mr Harold Evans, editor of *The Times*.

"The church is a living piece of history which is still in use", Mr Dowse said. The parish was reprieved from amalgamation last year,

NEWS IN SUMMARY

£110m more for rail passengers

British Rail's passenger subsidy is to be raised by £110.4m this year to compensate for traffic lost through the recession, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, announced yesterday.

This unexpectedly generous move came amid complaints that Mr Howell takes a harder line towards BR than his predecessor, Mr Norman Fowler (Michael Baily writes). It gave him the opportunity to comment in yesterday's Commons debate on railway financing: "Let there be no criticism that the Government is failing in its commitment to the railways".

The rise, to a total public service obligation grant of £754.9m, to compensate BR for uneconomic but socially valuable passenger services, is in fact more generous than the measure agreed by Mr Fowler when BR ran into cash difficulties a year ago. On that occasion the borrowing limits, rather than the grant, were raised.

With total passenger traffic down by 5 per cent and Inter-City down 9 per cent, it will still leave BR with a £60m loss on its passenger business this year. That will be met by higher productivity, more open stations in rural areas, curtailed trains and services on Inter-City and London commuter routes, and improved marketing.

Judge awards model £4,000

A model won a legal battle yesterday for a share in the £10,000 estate of Mr John Green, aged 22, her lover, who was killed in a car crash a few months before they were due to marry. In the High Court Mr Justice Foster ruled that Miss ean Havilland was entitled to £4,000. Most of the rest will go in legal costs.

Mr Green's parents, who handled his estate, he fought the claim fiercely, the judge said. But he was satisfied that Miss Havilland, aged 34, a divorcee, who had been financially supported by Mr Green for the nine months during which they had lived together in Hertford, should get some of the money he left.

Tote loses £¼m

A dramatic and disturbing slump in the profitability of the Tote, the nationalized betting organization, will be disclosed in its annual report today (Marcel Berlins writes). Compared with a profit of more than £2.5m in 1979-80, the latest figures will show a loss of more than £250,000.

Control unit plea lost

Michael Williams, of Wembley, London, a former prisoner who unsuccessfully sued the Home Office over treatment he received in one of Wakefield prison's three special control units, which were closed in 1974, was refused leave yesterday to take his case to the House of Lords.

Isle of Man Premier

Mr Percy Radcliffe, aged 65, a retired farmer, was elected the Isle of Man's Prime Minister yesterday in the wake of last Thursday's general election.

BL challenges rates

Rates increases on its car plants running into millions of pounds were challenged by BL yesterday in the High Court. BL Cars faces a total rate bill this year for its factories in Birmingham of £5.54m, and in Coventry, £2.35m.

Ford lays off 2,000

Two thousand Ford workers at Halewood, Merseyside, were laid off at lunchtime yesterday because of a dispute over discipline. The lay-offs came after a worker in the assembly plant was suspended.

Peace offer at ITN

The television technicians' union, ACTT, offered last night to end its four-day-old strike at Independent Television News if management referred the dispute to the agreed arbitration procedure.

Science report

The stress molecule found after 25 years

By the Staff of "Nature"

A scientific question that has consumed 25 years, scores of research fellowships, hundreds of thousands of dollars and millions of animals' brains is over. The outcome of that mammoth quest is the isolation and identification of CRF, a small molescule whose existence has long been postulated to account for the ability of the brain to order a rapid bodily response to stress.

To help cope with the stress of, for example, a car crash, steriods are released from the body's adrenal gland. Their release is in response to a blood-borne hormone, ACTH, a surge of which issues from the pituitary gland into the bloodstream immediately after a stressful incident. Since 1955 it has been postulated that the surge of ACTH is itself the consequence of a surge of CRF released from the stressed brain. After many frustrating years CRF has finally been isolated by Dr Wylie Vale and his colleagues at the Salk Institute in California.

Dr Vale's success stems directly from the frustrated attempts of others to purify CRF. When, in 1962, Dr Roger Guillemin, also now at the Salk Institute, and Dr Andrew Schally, now at Tulane University in New Orleans abandoned the first, seven-year effort to purify CRF, they each diverted their efforts to the isolation of other brain chemicals with distinct but parallel functions. Years of bitter rivalry culminated in the successful isolation of several such chemicals and a shared Nobel prize, as candidly documented in Nicholas Wade's new book *The Nobel Duel* (Anchor Press/Doubleday New York). But despite a continued interest in the problem neither Nobel laureate managed to purify CRF.

Dr Vale, kingpin of Dr Guillemin's research team for many years, split from his mentor in 1977 to start a rival laboratory on the same campus because, in Dr Vale's words from *The Nobel Duel*, "... several of us have learned what hell it can be for people who get caught up in the meat grinder, churning out more and more gloire for Guillemin, especially if you are the meat".

Into his own grinder Dr Vale was able to place material that had been carefully put aside during the isolation of another barin chemical in Dr Guillemin's laboratory from the brains of 490,000 sheep. Armed with more precise analytical methods than had been available in previous attempts, Dr Vale and his team were able to purify through many stages just sufficient CRF to determine its exact structure.

Three questions remain. Is CRF fully responsible for the release of ACTH from the pituitary or does it, as some believe, work in conjunction with other chemical messengers? Can CRF or synthetic variants of it find a clinical use? And what can be deduced from the fact that the structure of CRF strongly resembles that of a chemical found in the skin of certain frogs?

Source: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA, October 1981; 78, 6517.*

GOLD MEDAL WON FOR IVIES

By Our Horticulture Correspondent

The last Royal Horticultural Society show of the year, held in the New Hall, Westminster, is extremely colourful and consists of many interesting exhibits.

Only one gold medal in the Lindley range has been awarded to a plant exhibit and that is to Fibrex Nurseries, of Evesham. That firm has staged a spectacular display of many types of ivies, showing the great range of leaf form and colour available.

The following plants received awards from the committees: First class certificate, *Pinus wallichiana*, foliage and cones, from Mr R N S Clarke, of Haywards Heath; Awards of merit *Cattleya portiata* 'Mont Millais'; also *Saphrolaeliocattleya* 'Mont Millais' (subject to verification of grex name), both from Mr E E Young, St Helier, Jersey.

There were not many entries in the late apple and pear competition. Mr T Baxendale, of Chidmere, won the main prizes.

Leading prizewinners in the Orchid Society of Great Britain's competition include: Mr T Parks, Camberwell, Schroeder Cup; Mr K Owen, Turners Hill, Wyld Court Cup; Mr A Bround, Batcombe, Somerset, Jeal Cup; and Charlesworth Cup; Mr R Malcomber, Stockbridge, Nan-Yang Trophy; Mrs J Kelleher, Orpington, Coach Party Trophy and Bitterhausen Trophy; Mr M Pottinger, Middlesex, David Sander Trophy; and Mrs R Ashdown, of Brentwood, Len Page Challenge Cup for best bloom in show.

The show is open today from 10 am to 5 pm.



Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 25; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 500 mils; Denmark Dkr 6.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mk 4.50; France Frs 6.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 75; Holland Gl 3; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 50p; Italy L 1600; Jordan JD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 75; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L£5.50; Tunisia Din .600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

Victory is in sight for Williams

From Julian Havilland
Political Editor,
Liverpool

With only 24 hours of campaigning remaining, the Labour vote in the Crosby by-election appeared to be rapidly collapsing last night, in spite of the arrival of Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, in Merseyside

As the evidence grew that traditional Labour voters were moving to Mrs Shirley Williams, the Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance candidate, to register their dissatisfaction with the Government, the opinion polls continued to give the message they have been giving for the past month, that Mrs Williams is going to win and become the first member of Parliament elected under the SDP banner.

Mr John Backhouse, the Labour candidate, seeing his support ebb away, admitted yesterday: "I have to accept that it does not look terribly good."

Mrs Williams was taking nothing for granted and denied that she regarded the election as already won. Asked to comment on the latest opinion poll, which gave her a 13 percentage point lead over Mr John Butcher, the Conservative candidate, she suggested that it might be another "secret weapon" from the Conservatives, designed to give her a false sense of security.

Mr Butcher, who appears to be on the point of losing a majority at the last general election of more than 19,000, said he was very confident. "I am not losing this election, I am winning it", he declared with the imperturbable smile of a politician whose skin is thickening fast. "The people I am meeting are giving very good support to the Government."

Mr Butcher and Mr Backhouse are clearly up against something big. Mr Butcher, a more effective campaigner than some of his critics have recognised, has some evidence that his support has increased in recent days, though not by enough to save him. But for every percentage point the Conservatives pull back, the Labour campaign appears to be losing in votes which go to Mrs Williams.

Mr Backhouse described the Social Democrats' appeal yesterday as "a new something; we are not quite sure what it is; a new phenomenon". He did not accept that he was not going to be MP for Crosby, but conceded that the Social Democrats were gaining and he was losing because of a tactical switching of votes.

Mr Backhouse said some people whom he had canvassed in recent days had told him they were voting for Mrs Williams because they thought she was gong to win. Others had told him on the doorstep that if they did not vote for her they would abstain.

The Conservative campaign yesterday briefly produced Mr Michael Alison, Minister of State at the Department of Employment, to make the most of the good news in the latest employment figures. He was optimistic, but tentatively so. He said that the impression he got was that the tide had turned, but it was difficult to be certain.

The seasonally adjusted figures showed unemployment "beginning systematically and unmistakably to drop, although it is not dramatic and although it is still too early to be absolutely confident that this trend will be maintained, say, in January".

Mr Alison also made some modest claims for the new changes proposed in trade union law. He had no doubt that the public wanted further changes in industrial legislation, and they were going to get them. They would lead to further protection of the individual, and to modernization of the framework of trade union law.

□ Polls which point to a landslide victory for Mrs Williams were dismissed yesterday by Mr Backhouse (the Press Association reports). The latest poll, carried out by MORI, forecasts that the alliance will win with a majority of 6,000. But Mr Backhouse, who would be left with 14 per cent support, according to the poll, said: "I do not accept that I am not going to be the new MP for Crosby".

His own canvassing returns put him ahead of the alliance and one per cent behind the Tories, with 28 per cent of the vote. "The signs are that Tories are defecting to the Social Democrats."

Candidates: Mr Butcher (C), Mr Backhouse (Lab), Mrs Williams (Lib-Soc Dem Alliance), Lieutenant-Commander (ret) William Boakes (Public Safety Democracy, Monarchists White Residents), Mr Thomas Leslie Ker (Con-Lib Alliance), Mr John Kennea (Middlesex Polytechnic Suspended Students), Mr Richard Small (Ecology), Mr Donald Potter (Humanitarian), Mr Tarquin-Fintim-Linbin-Whin-Binlim-Bus Ole Biscuit Barrel P'Tang (Cambridge University Raving Loony Society).
General election: May 1979: Page, Sir R G (C) 34,768; Mulhearn, A (Lab) 15,496; Hill, A (L) 9,302; Hussey, P (Ecology) 1,489.



Stepping out on the campaign trail in Crosby, Mrs Shirley Williams gets the Walter Raleigh treatment from Mr Gabriel Brets, aged 29, a painter and decorator.

Doctor in thick of bribe plan, court told

A Bournemouth doctor acted as a middleman in an attempt to pass £5,000 to a Maltese government minister to ensure that a hospital construction contract was given to John Poulson's company, it was alleged at Bournemouth magistrates' court yesterday.

Dr Kenneth Williams, aged 54, of Glenferness Avenue, Bournemouth, is facing committal proceedings on two charges of corruptly offering £2,000 and £3,000 in 1966 for transmission to Dr Carmello Caruana, then Minister of Public buildings and Works in Malta.

Mr Anthony Purnell, for the prosecution, said that Dr Williams was "directly concerned" in seeking to give the money to Dr Caruana.

The money, it was alleged, wa paid by Vickers Ltd. Dr Williams was managing director of the company's medical engineering division at the time.

Mr Ernest Lester, chief cashier at Vickers, said in a statement that payments to the John Abela Trading Company, acting as agents for Caruana in Malta, were initialled by Dr Williams.

The money was meant to ensure that the design and construction contract for the Royal Victoria Hospital in Gozo, Malta, went To Poulson, Mr Purnell said.

Coodinators would be the ITCs, the International Technical and Construction services Company, set up by Mr Poulson as his overseas trading company. The chairman was Mr Reginald Maudling, MP then in the shadow cabinet, and one of the directors was Dr Williams.

Mr Purnell said: "At an early stage it was decided that Garuana was to be bribed and Dr Williams was in the thick of it, Caruana wanted a party press and the idea was that the bribe should take the form of a contribution to build his press."

The hearing was adjorned until Janaurry 21.

Second defection to SDP on the GLC

By David Walker

The Social Democrats yesterday claimed their second seat on the Greater London Council when Mr Paul Rossi, a councillor formerly active in the Campaign for Labour Victory, announced that he was leaving Labour because of its continuing drift to Trotskyism. His application to join the Social Democrats will be a formality.

Mr Rossi, aged 31, who has held his Lewisham, East, seat only since last May, joins Mrs Anne Sofer, the former Labour member who resigned her seat and recaptured it for the Social Democrats. Mrs Sofer has recently been voting in alliance with Mr Adrian Slade, the council's only Liberal.

In a statement Mr Rossi said: "I intend to remain a member of the GLC. I am happy to fight a by-election against Ken Livingstone (the GLC Labour leader) if he will have the guts to resign and put his views to the test."

Mrs Sofer said Mr Rossi was a "terrific person" and she was very much looking forward to working with him. Mr Slade said that defection from Labour would not be the last. More would follow to push Labour's overall GLC majority of four even lower.

Voting patterns at yesterday's GLC meeting suggested that Mrs Mair Garside could be another future defector from the Labour group.

Mr Rossi's defection also affects the balance of power on the borough council at Lambeth, where he has been a councillor for seven years. It reduces Labour's majority there to eight.

His letter of resignation from the Labour group arrived at the GLC meeting just as Labour scored a tactical coup by tricking the Conservative opposition into adjourning the meeting after only minor items.

Labour council leader protests over 'threats'

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr John O'Grady, Labour leader of Southwark Borough Council, has protested against the use of threats and abuse by observers at an internal party appeal hearing held in London last week.

Mr O'Grady, leader of the council for 14 years, lost his appeal against a party decision to exclude him from the list of candidates for next May's local government elections.

In a formal protest, sent to Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, Mr O'Grady has called for a rehearing of his appeal.

A number of London Labour MPs are supporting Mr O'Grady, who is aged 61 and has been a Southwark councillor for 23 years. If Labour leaders take no action to help him it is possible that his treatment could provoke a parliamentary by-election in Southwark, Bermondsey, the seat held by Mr Robert Mellish, the former Labour Chief Whip.

Mr Mellish has given a warning that he has no sympathy for the new left forces which have gained control of his local party and has threatened to bring forward his Parliamentary retirement to test the public strength of the Labour left at the polls.

The complaint lodged by Mr O'Grady specifically mentions the behaviour of more than a dozen Bermondsey party members who were admitted to observe his appeal hearing last Monday night.



'Romans' fight back

Michael Bogdanov, associate director of the National Theatre, is to be tried at the Central Criminal Court next March on a charge of gross indecency in connexion with the play *The Romans in Britain*.

An appeal was launched yesterday for funds to pay for his defence (Our Arts Correspondent writes).

The campaign was announced by Mr Andrew Leigh, administrator of the Old Vic, who said that the case involving Mr Bogdanov might be taken as far as the European Court of Human Rights in order to fight what the campaign sees as unfair censorship.

Mr Bogdanov faces a private prosecution brought by Mrs Mary Whitehouse under the Sexual Offences Act, 1956. His supporters believe the Theatre's Act, which in 1968 abolished the Lord Chamberlain's power of censorship over plays and provided the theatre with protection against those who seek to suppress uncomfortable scenes, is adequate.

Church Army appeal

The Church Army launched a £2.25m appeal yesterday to clear its £1m deficit and fund a series of projects. The army, which is affiliated to the Church of England, works among the poor, running hostels.

Fares ruling 'could harm transport'

By Frances Gibb

If the House of Lords rules that the Greater London Council's cheaper fares scheme is invalid there will be a very substantial rise in fares and a potentially deleterious effect on London's transport services, a QC said yesterday.

Opening an appeal by the GLC against the Court of Appeal's recent ruling against its "Fares Fair" scheme, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, told the Lords' Appellate Committee that another effect could be that transport authorities throughout the country would be challenged over their fares policy.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and two other judges in the Court of Appeal ruled on November 10 that the GLC had no power to impose a supplementary rate to pay for a 25 per cent cut in bus and Underground fares.

They granted an order for the quashing of he supplementary precept to the Conservative-controlled London Borough of Bromley, which was appealing against a High Court ruling that the GLC was entitled to impose the extra rate.

Fares have remained at their new level pending the Lords decision, but the GLC was instructed to prepare to increase them in the event of the Lords upholding the Court of Appeal's decision.

Mr Alexander said the case to some extent was presented in the Court of Appeal as ratepayers versus fare payers. "But that is an oversimplification in the sense not only that ratepayers sometimes use the transport system, but that an efficient, integrated transport system must, in the context of a modern city, affect the amenity directly or indirectly.

Another issue was effect of the supplementary rate imposed by the GLC. It had attracted a cut in its rate support grant by central government as part of its overall policy for keeping down expenditure. That was a penalty that boroughs thought unfair.

The question for the Lords, he said, was whether under the Transport Act, 1969, the GLC had power to implement the policies it did implement and, secondly, if there was that power, whether it had exercised it so unreasonably that it could not be regarded as a proper exercise of power.

For a decade both the Conservative and Labour parties when in power at County Hall had felt able to hold fare levels by ever increasing subsidies to London Transport, but if the judgment of Lord Justice Oliver in the Court of Appeal was right, that could no longer be done, he said.

There was no dispute that the GLC had set out in its election manifesto a cut in fares as the remedy to the problem. The decision was taken openly with opportunity for debate, Mr Alexander said.

The hearing continues today.

Highest court has only limited role in law

By Marcel Berlins Legal Correspondent

It is a paradox of the English legal system that "the highest court in the land", the House of Lords, does not have most influence in administration of the law.

The reason is largely numerical. Last year, for instance, the Law Lords, more correctly called Lords of Appeal in Ordinary, heard 52 appeals, of which some come from Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The Court of Appeal for England and Wales, in contrast, dealt with nearly 1,000 civil appeals and nearly 2,500 criminal appeals.

Most appeals, therefore, stop at the Court of Appeal, and its decisions create most precedents.

Lord Denning, who as Master of the Rolls is head of the Court of Appeal's Civil Division, has had far more impact on English law than Lord Wilberforce, the senior Law Lord.

Nevertheless, in hierarchical, and usually in qualitative, terms the Law Lords are Britain's top judges.

There are at present nine of them, though sometimes there are 10. In addition the Lord Chancellor is entitled to sit as one. Two are usually from Scotland, because the House of Lords is the final court of appeal from some Scottish courts.

Law Lords are appointed by the Lord Chancellor and are usually drawn from the best appeal court judges. On the whole, appointments have not been controversial.

House of Lords appeals are heard in parliamentary committee rooms, in a quiet and unintimidating atmosphere far removed from the bustle and pomp of other courts.

Law Lords do not wear judicial wigs, and they do not sit on pedastals or raised platforms. To the outsider they would seem more like a group of elderly businessmen than the cream of the country's legal brains.

A panel of five Law Lords can often result in five different judgments, or "speeches," as is constitutionally more valid (the Law Lords are carrying out the functions of the entire House of Lords). There has been criticism, therefore, that the final decision is not always clear cut. Where different judges have different reasons for their decisions it is often difficult to extract the common statement of law being made.

A more fundamental criticism is that there is no need for two-tier appeal structure. Other countries manage with just one level and some legal experts believe that a second forum is unnecessary.

Monuments quango proposed

By Hugh Clayton

A new quango to take the management of national monuments out of Government hands was proposed by ministers yesterday.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in London that rather than impose spending cuts on the section of his department it administers ancient monuments and historic buildings, he preferred to create a new body outside the civil service which could tap voluntary expertise and inject some tasteful commercialism into the financing of historic houses.

"There is no way in which we are trying to create a commercially viable organization, he told the annual meeting of the Historic Houses Association.

Last year the Government spent £36m on the half of the nation's historic and ancient monuments which are in England, but only £7.5m was raised through entrance fees and souvenir sales. "A new agency would provide a central focus, which I am sure most people would agree is lacking at present", he said.

The Government said in a consultative document issued yesterday that the new body should absorb the Ancient Monuments Board for England and the Historic Buildings Council for England. It would also acquire almost 1,000 civil servants from the Department of the Environment.

Three months has been allowed for consultations, and the Government wants the new agency to open in April, 1983. Similar consultations have begun in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Ministers would hold a right of final decision over proposals by the new agency which affected private property owners. They would also appoint members of the agency's governing board.

"Some of our ancient monuments are extremely well presented. Many are not", Mr Heseltine said. All of them would benefit from a more imaginative and professional approach.

Organization of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings, (Stationary Office, £1.50).

SHEFFIELD FOURTH CITY

Sheffield has overtaken Manchester as the fourth largest city in England, according to the latest instalment of the official census. That blow to Mancunian pride has occurred because Manchester's population has shrunk faster than Sheffield's in the past 10 years.

The populations of all 10 of the largest English towns have fallen and there is now no centre outside London with more than a million. Birmingham's has dropped from 1,110,000 to 920,000 in the past 20 years.

Most oppose unilateral policy

By Ian Bradley

A clear majority of the British people oppose unilateral nuclear disarmament, according to a new poll.

Carried out by Market & Opinion Research International (MORI) for the BBC in connexion with this year's Reith lectures, the poll finds that 69 per cent of the population oppose unilateralism and only 23 per cent support it.

Attitudes are consistent across sex, age and class, although respondents aged between 15 and 24 were the most likely to support unilateralism (29 per cent).

A majority of the supporters of all three parties felt Britain should not scrap its nuclear weapons. Unilateral disarmament was opposed by 86 per cent of Conservatives, 69 per cent of those supporting the Liberal/SDP alliance, and 56 per cent of Labour supporters.

Sixty-two per cent of those interviewed opposed any reduction in defence spending, and 32 per cent supported such a reduction. The poll also showed that a majority of respondents (52 per cent) favoured an independent British nuclear deterrent.

In keeping with this generally hawkish mood, the poll found that 55 per cent of those interviewed believe Britain should be prepared to play a military role in the Middle East if its national interests are threatened. Only 29 per cent of respondents opposed that view.

The only encouragement for the growing nuclear disarmament movement is the finding that a clear majority of those interviewed (59 per cent) opposed the siting of American nuclear weapons on British soil.

Opponents of American nuclear weapons in Britain are in a clear majority among supporters of the SDP/Liberal Alliance (63 per cent) and the Labour Party (72 per cent) but in a minority among Conservative supporters (36 per cent).

That suggests that the anti-cruise campaign has had some effect on public opinion and also that the Liberals' anti-cruise policies may be closer to the feelings of supporters of the alliance than the more pro-cruise stance of the SDP.

Overall, the poll suggest that the British are now even more pessimistic of their chances of surviving a nuclear attack than a year ago. Only 5 per cent think they would survive if nuclear weapons were used against Britain, compared with 6 per cent in a Gallup poll in September, 1980, and 85 per cent think they would not survive, compared with 77

A third of those interviewed think that the possession of nuclear weapons by Britain increases the risk of a nuclear attack on the country. However, 35 per cent believe that it decreases the risk and a quarter consider it has no effect.

If the poll has a generally encouraging message for Mrs Thatcher, it can hardly reassure President Reagan or Mr Brezhnev. Only 14 per cent of those interviewed think that the American President has sound judgment, and the proportion drops to 6 per cent for Mr Brezhnev.

Less than half of those interviewed (40 per cent) believe that the United States genuinely wants world peace, and only 6 per cent feel that way about the Soviet Union. Only 22 per cent feel the Americans can be trusted to keep their word on nuclear disarmament, and only 5 per cent think the Russians can.

The findings of the poll, which was carried out among 1,785 adults between October 23 and 29 last, will be discussed by Professor Laurence Martin on BBC Radio 4 tonight at 7.45 and in his subsequent Reith lectures.

Council call for more aid to North

From Ronald Kershaw
York

The government was accused yesterday by a group of county councils in Yorkshire and Humberside of financially favouring the south of England at the expense of the north.

The Strategic Conference of County Councils in Yorkshire and Humberside, at which the councils of Humberside and North, West and South Yorkshire are represented, met in York and decided that there was a case for convincing the Government that money to be spent on big transport projects should go to the North, where average incomes were lower and unemployment was substantially higher than in the South.

Mr John Gunnell, leader of West Yorkshire County Council and chairman of the conference, said the Government was contemplating spending an estimated £2,500m on developing the transport network in the South.

That figure included some £850m on a Channel tunnel, £600m on a third London airport, £215m on a new air terminal at Heathrow, £190m on a new terminal at Gatwick, £100m on a new Thames bridge and additional expense on rail links, the London orbital motorway and other projects.

Mr Gunnell said members felt that the money to be spent on a third London airport could be used instead to develop regional airports. There was a significant difference between the Humber Bridge, which was subject to tolls and financed locally and by government loan, and a new Thames bridge which, it had been suggested, would be funded entirely by the Department of Transport.

The strategic conference Mr Gunnell said was prepared to back Humberside County Council in its contention that if a new Thames bridge would be toll-free so should be the Humber Bridge. "We simply want equality" he said.

A study was to be made of the impact on the economy of a Channel tunnel and its effect in terms of industrial development benefits. These, he felt, should be spread so that the regions benefited, not just London and the South-east.





Jasper (left), the labrador dog injured in the IRA bomb explosion at Woolwich, south-east London, on Monday, resting in a vetrinary surgeons compound yesterday awaiting an operation on its leg. Zeb, the other dog owned by Mrs Veronica Eadsforth, who was injured, is guarding the gate at home.

Renewal of cities is being skimped, trust says

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

Britain is doing "pathetically little" to improve its urban landscape, the Civic Trust said yesterday. Mr Michael Middleton, the trust's director, reported that "essential maintenance and renewal of the urban infrastructure have been skimped to the point where one must begin to wonder whether the nation can ever catch up".

He was announcing the latest awards by the trust for urban projects of "environmental excellence". There were 16 awards and 59 commendations for the two years to the end of 1980, compared with 27 and 75 in the previous three years.

Mr Middleton said that most assessors submitted strikingly similar comments about "inadequate design, perfunctory landscaping, skimped finishes and other evidence of pared budgets".

The nation was not meeting the urgent need to make densely populated urban areas more habitable. "A better life in towns was not achieved in Britain during 1981", Mr Middleton said. "The challenge merely assumed greater urgency."

Toad Lane conservation area, in Rochdale, Greater Manchester, has won an award for the re-creation of "a working example of a street of the mid-nineteenth century" on the site of the birth of the Co-operative movement.

Described by the trust as "a little oasis of once derelict buildings", the project includes a redundant church now used as offices.

Another award went to the restored plateau in front of the columns of St George's Hall, near Lime Street station, in Liverpool. "This scheme combines all the essential ingredients for success", the trust commented.

The latest series of commendations includes lamp standards at Kingston upon Thames, which were cast from a single surviving Victorian original. Another was a cat picked out in dark bricks on a wall next to a play area in Newcastle upon Tyne. The trust, a charity financed by industry, said that a simple idea had made a significant improvement to the area.

Premature babies put at risk

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

Newly born premature babies are being put at risk of brain damage or blindness by inadequate monitoring of the oxygen in their blood after birth, it was said yesterday.

If they are given too much oxygen they can go blind. Too little can produce permanent brain damage. Constant monitoring is necessary but the equipment for it is lacking.

Professor Osmund Reynolds, Professor of Neonatal Paediatrics at University College, London, said that a doctor not monitoring a baby's oxygen levels continuously amounted to negligence.

Premature babies are often given oxygen because their lungs are immature and they cannot get enough for themselves. Their lungs do not produce a vital coating substance called surfactant, a condition known as hyaline membrane disease.

The condition corrects itself five or six days after birth, regardless of how premature the baby is. So additional oxygen is vital for a brief period.

In that time, however, disaster can strike. In the 1940s and early 1950s many babies were given too much oxygen and went blind because the risk of blindness was not understood. It was the most common cause of blindness for a generation.

Professor Reynolds, who was speaking at a London seminar organized by the charity, Bliss (Baby Life Support Systems), said there were several ways of monitoring levels of oxygen in the blood. Blood samples can be taken at intervals and analysed, but severe fluctuations can occur between sampling times.

West Indians jam phones to get home

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

West Indians wanting to go home yesterday jammed the switchboard of Westindian Concern after the organization announced a £1m appeal to finance their resettlement. The organization has a list of 70 families needing help and another 200 which have yet to be assessed.

Mr Ashton Gibson, director-general of the Homeward Bound Fund, set up by the organization, said yesterday that the calls showed the increasing desperation of West Indians who could no longer cope with living in Britain.

His organization has been helping small numbers to return, but the demand had escalated so much recently that they now needed larger funds to cope, he said.

"We used to turn to the state schemes, but they will not help people born in this country or those who are able-bodied. They should be helped, because they are not accepted here and not made welcome. They came over here on the basis that it was their mother country, but no mother treats her children like Britain treats West Indians".

Two state schemes exist to help people wishing to return home. One, introduced under the Immigration Act, 1971 is administered on behalf of the Home Office by International Social Service of Great Britain, which had helped 546 families containing 1,421 people to return home in the 10 years to last March.

The other is run by the Department of Health and Social Secrurity and is used where it is cheaper to send volunteers home than to continue paying them supplementary benefit. the numbers fell from 103 cases in 1972 to 33 in 1980.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Eton snubs science, pupils say

Charles Althorpe, the Princess of Wales's brother, who is a pupil at Eton, has joined in an attack on the school over its educational priorities.

Mr Althorpe is joint editor of *The Eton College Chronicle*, the college magazine, which has accused the school of demoting scientists to "second-rate citizens" and devoting too much time to the arts.

As a result the magazine claims, old Etonians are going to find it hard to compete for jobs as unemployment increases.

"The "Eton passport to success" no longer enjoys the recognition it once did. "The average Etonian's pitiful scientific ignorance rules him out of the competition."

The magazine adds: "The assumption that scientists are second-rate citizens is bolstered not just by the predictably reactionary beaks, but also by a curious conservatism and short-sightedness among the boys".

Fewer places for engineering

The University Grants Committee has admitted for the first time that the number of engineering places in universities is likely to fall over the next two years if universities follow the committee's guidelines on student numbers (Our Education Correspondent writes).

In a letter to *The Times* last month Dr Edward Parkes, chairman of the committee, said that contrary to some erroneous statements in the press the number of engineering places was "being increased both relatively and absolutely".

However, in another letter to *The Times* this month, Professor Robert Smith, chairman of the Engineering Professors' Conference, claimed that Dr Parkes' statement about an absolute increase in engineering places was "not true".

Asked to explain the discrepancy between the two claims, Dr Parkes said that both were perfectly correct, but the UGC's calculations were based on student numbers in 1979 to 1980, whereas Professor Smith's were based on an estimate of numbers in the current year.

Open verdict on journalist

An open verdict was recorded at an Epsom inquest yesterday on John Stephenson, a *Daily Mail* journalist, of The Drive, Coulsdon, Surrey, who disappeared on September 13 and was found dead at Box Hill on October 6.

Mrs Shirley Stephenson said her husband had been under strain at work and had been taking sedatives. The Surrey Coroner, Lieutenant-Colonel George McEwan, said a Home Office pathologist could find no cause of death. Natural causes was always a possibility.

Downing Street plea for handicapped

A petition with 100,000 signatures demanding better services for the mentally handicaped was handed to Mrs Margaret Thatcher at 10 Downing Street yesterday.

It called for more mentally handicapped patients to be moved out of hospital and into community homes. Government plans to reduce the numbers in hospital to 27,000 by 1991 were behind target, with 44,000 still in hospital, it said.

Wife murder charge

A man whose wife and three young children died in a fire at their home in Hayes, Middlesex, appeared at Uxbridge Magistrates Court yesterday accused of their murder. Hardhajan Dhillon, aged 29, a lorry driver and part-time security officer, and Richard Appleton, aged 24, also a security officer, who is jointly charged with murder, were remanded for a week.

Law Report November 25 1981

Member has no personal right in unions dispute

Cheall v Apex
Before Mr Justice Bingham
[Judgment delivered November 24]

The power of the Trades Union Congress disputes committee to direct an affiliated union to expel a member recruited from another union in contravention of the Bridlington principles, against the wishes of both the member and his union and without giving the member any opportunity to be heard, was not contrary to the rules of natural justice or to public policy his Lordship held in the Queen's Bench Division.

The plaintiff, Mr Ernest Dennis Cheall, of Recreation Road, Houghton Regis, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, who had left the Transport and General Workers' Union and joined the white collar union Apex, failed in his attempt to obtain a declaration that the notice of termination given by Apex when acting in accordance with that direction was invalid.

Mr George Newman, QC and Mr Stephen Auld for the plaintiff; Mr Frederic Reynold and Miss Cherie Booth for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE BINGHAM said that the situation of the parties was a strange one. The plaintiff, a long standing and dedicated trade unionist, adamantly wished to remain a member of the defendant union, who for their part would wish, if they properly could, to keep him as a member. But under the principles accepted by unions affiliated to the TUC, and generally known as the Bridlington principle, the union felt bound to expel him.

In 1965 the plaintiff became an employee of Vauxhall Motors and, his union having merged with the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU), he later became a member of its subsidiary the Association of Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Staffs (ACTSS) and was made secretary of his local branch. In 1974, having become disenchanted with their union, all the members of that branch committee, including the plaintiff, submitted their resignations.

There was no guidance in the union rules for the procedure to be used in such a move but the plaintiff had been meticulous in taking all the steps he thought necessary including the sending of a letter of resignation.

He then joined the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex) without stating in his application that he had been a member of the ACTSS, although the local officials were aware of the fact.

During the early 1970s there had been incentives for unions in the staff area, including the ACTSS and Apex, to compete for members in order to strengthen their respective claims on Vauxhall Motors for recognition for collective bargaining. While the recruitment of non-union members presented no problem, it was obvious that no union would be likely to agree to the recruitment of its former members.

Having been referred to the 1979 edition of Apex rules, the 1976 edition of the *TUC Disputes Principles and Procedures* and the 1978 Rules and Standing Orders of the TUC, it could be readily seen that they formed part of a coherent, interlocking scheme. They gave the TUC jurisdiction to entertain and decide disputes between its members concerning membership and, where the disputes committee had ruled that members of an affiliated union should be excluded, to enable the union validly to exclude such members. That second object had been embodied in a model rule designed by the TUC for practically all affiliated unions and was to be found in rule 14 of the Apex rules.

The TGWU having complained to the TUC, there had been a disputes committee in 1977 at which the TGWU and Apex presented their cases and at which the plaintiff, while not a party, had been present and had made two interventions. The committee ruled that Apex, by not making inquiry of the TGWU before accepting the plaintiff and 10 others as members had acted in breach of principle 2 and should exclude the 11 and advise them to rejoin the TGWU. Accordingly under rule 14 Apex purported to exclude the plaintiff from membership.

The first issue had been the construction of rule 14, which conferred a permissive and not a mandatory duty. It was a reasonable interpretation of the rule that the union was to have a discretion to terminate a person's membership where such termination was required or called on by a decision of the disputes committee.

If his Lordship was wrong on that point he would nevertheless hold that there was on the facts such a practical necessity as the plaintiff had argued would be necessary before the discretion could be exercised. Apex could not have been reasonably expected to take the decision to the General Council of the TUC which was concerned primarily with the interests of the union movement as a whole rather than the merits of decisions of the disputes committee.

A further argument by the plaintiff on the contractual effect of rule 14 was that a union could break Bridlington principle 2 either innocently or knowingly as in the present case and should not implement an award where it had acted in default. But his Lordship held that rule 14 was quite specific as to where the decision to terminate was vested and when it arose: An adverse decision of a disputes committee necessarily envisaged a violation of the Bridlington principles by Apex and the general language of the rule permitted no requirement concerning the quality of Apex's conduct giving rise to the decision.

The plaintiff's main argument had been that the admission and expulsion of members to and from trade unions were matters to which the law attached a special seriousness because of the important role unions played in our society and the serious economic, social and other consequences which membership and expulsion could entail. That was so even where, in the absence of a closed shop, loss of a union card did not mean loss of a livelihood.

In accordance with the rules of natural justice it was accordingly necessary that before a member was expelled he should have proper notice of the complaint against him and an adequate opportunity to make representations on his own behalf. The plaintiff had no such notice or opportunity.

However in his Lordship's judgment, the TUC and the disputes committee were correct in regarding their function as being the preservation of order and discipline among affiliated unions and were not concerned with considering the conduct or accommodating the wishes of individual members of those organizations.

It could be assumed that poached members wished to join the new union, otherwise they would not have left the old one, but beyond that the committee did not need to go. It would be not only extending but distorting the principle of natural justice to hold that the plaintiff had a personal right to be treated as a party.

The plaintiff had made a final far-reaching submission on public policy; that rule 14 and the Bridlington principles constituted a restriction on the individual's right to belong to a trade union of his choice, on the grounds of English statutory provisions, the European Convention on Human Rights, and expert evidence that the necessary control could best be exercised, and the wishes of individuals respected, by the use of fines rather than termination of membership.

However, his Lordship could find nothing in the English statutory provisions to suggest that the model rule was necessarily, and irrespective of the circumstances of its operation, to be regarded as mischievous, nor did the European Convention.

The cases cited on that point, while containing some passages to the plaintiff's possible advantage, had been based on facts quite different from the present. Further it would be naive to suppose that a reliable view could be formed on the basis of a few hours expert evidence, however eminent.

To hold the model rule to be contrary to public policy would in the absence of authority and on the strength of factual evidence require an overwhelming case to be made out. It had not been; rather the practical arguments in favour of the rule were at the least serious and substantial, and the action must be dismissed.

Solicitors: Boyle & Ormerod, Aylesbury; John L. Williams.

Irregularity in replying to note from jury

Regina v Townsend

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Waller, Mr Justice Jupp and Mr Justice Waterhouse) allowing on November 20 an appeal against conviction, held that a material irregularity had occurred in the course of a crown court trial when a note sent by the jury to the judge, and the judge's reply, were not made public at the time.

LORD JUSTICE WALLER, reading the judgment of the court, said that the jury had handed to the jury bailiff a note indicating disagreement "8-4 not guilty". The bailiff handed the note to the judge instructed the bailiff to tell the jury that they must continue their deliberations until a unanimous verdict had been reached, and the bailiff delivered that message. Counsel for the defendant was not informed at the time or until after the jury had returned a verdict of guilty.

The case was indistinguishable from *R v Lamb* ([1974] 59 Cr App R 196). The communication was not made known in open court in the presence of the defendant or his legal representative, and the defendant's counsel had no opportunity of dealing with the matter.

On receipt of the note from the jury the judge should have called the jury into open court in the presence of the defendant and his counsel and indicated, without disclosing its precise contents, that he had a received a note from the jury which showed that there was a division of opinion. He should have told the jury that it was not possible at that stage to accept a majority verdict and asked them to retire again to endeavour to reach a unanimous verdict.

In the circumstances the case was not one in which the proviso to section 2(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 could be applied. Accordingly the appeal would be allowed.

Freshwater fishing in the close season

Thames Water Authority v Homewood

Guidance was given by Mr Justice Woolf (sitting with Lord Justice Ormrod) in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court on November 20 as to the proper approach to be taken by justices dealing with summonses under section 19 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 alleging freshwater fishing during the close season where the accused had relied on the exempting provision allowing fishing where salmon or trout were specifically preserved; in particular, where commercial owners had intentionally added trout to the waters.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the justices had dismissed the summons on their finding of fact that fish were preserved within the meaning of the section. However, the decision had been made on the evidence and it did not follow that in a similar situation other courts would not be entitled to reach a different conclusion.

Before holding that the exception to section 19 applied, justices had to take the view that the fishing was on waters where trout were genuinely and specially preserved. They should take into account the numbers of trout introduced in relation to the area of water, look at all the activities taking place on the water throughout the year, and come to a conclusion as to whether what had happened had been done with a view to preserving trout or if it had just been an attempt to create that impression whereas in fact the primary intention had been the conducting of freshwater fishing during the close season.

Intentionally homeless after dismissal

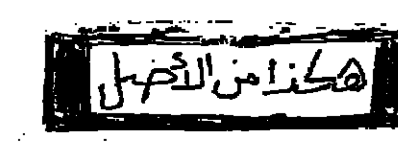
Regina v Thanet District Council, Ex parte Reeve

A person in employment which included the provision of accommodation had rendered herself intentionally homeless for the purposes of section 17 of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 by engaging in conduct which had led to her dismissal and consequent loss of accommodation, Mr Justice Woolf held in the Queen's Bench Division in November 17.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the council had been satisfied that she must have known the consequences of her action would be her loss of accommodation and had therefore relied in section 17 to declare her intentionally homeless, thus removing their statutory obligations under the Act.

It had been argued that while a resignation from employment with accommodation would fall within the section, acts resulting in a termination of that employment did not. The answer lay in the proper interpretation of section 17(1).

As the words "in consequence" in the section raised problems of causation, the decision had to be made by reference to the remoteness of the actions. Applying that test in the present case, the local authority had been correct in finding that the applicant's conduct fell within section 17 and accordingly the application for judicial review would be dismissed.



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Reagan's victory fails to resolve budget dilemma

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 24

President Reagan's series of spectacular victories over Congress are reminiscent of those old Western films in which the hero finds himself facing what appear to be overwhelming odds, yet the audience knows he will manage to shoot his way to safety and to fight another day.

Mr Reagan's latest success, which ended last night with the President riding off into a Californian sunset after forcing a recalcitrant Congress to approve a short-term funding Bill, was predictable. Yet, just as modern Westerns do not always have a happy ending, so there remains a lingering impression in Washington that the President may not emerge unscathed from future shootouts with Congress.

His critics on Capitol Hill have accused him of stage-managing yesterday's confrontation, which at one time threatened to bring the Federal government to a standstill. "It was a manufactured shootout at OK Corral", said Senator Robert Byrd, the minority leader in the Senate.

Despite the President's denials, it is clear that the White House opted for a confrontation to show Congress and the country that he was still serious about cutting Federal spending.

The money involved $2,000m represented less than half a per cent of the $428,000m emergency spending Bill which the President vetoed yesterday morning.

But it was the symbolism which was all-important. The White House evidently believed that the President's economic programme, which has already been badly buffeted by the deepening recession, would fatally lose momentum if he was not seen to be pursuing additional budget cuts.

What was really at issue was not the level of spending during 1982, but the battles which are looming over the 1983 and 1984 budgets. Everyone accepts that next year's deficit will be huge. The Administration is still clinging to the hope that it can be kept to about $43,000m but unofficial estimates indicate it could be double that, or more.

The real test of the President's economic recovery programme will be the following two years. By then the recession should have ended and the economy have begun to be revitalized by the Administration's tax cuts. However, the President's overriding objective of substantially reducing the budget deficit by 1984 can only be achieved if more and larger cuts are made in domestic spending.

Yesterday's victory did nothing to solve the President's budget dilemma. All it did was to establish a ceasefire for three weeks so that the President and Congress could get away for this week's Thanksgiving holiday and then return refreshed for a new confrontation before the December 15 deadline for Congress to submit a new continuing resolution.

Whether Mr Reagan's new victory over Congress will turn out to have been good politics is another matter. Certainly he has succeeded again in exposing the weakness and disarray in the Democratic Party: forty-three House Democrats defected to give the President his requested extension of Federal spending power until December 15.

Of greater concern to the President will be the effect which the events of the past 24 hours will have on his own party. Some Republican leaders are angry because they believe they have been deliberately misled by the White House.

They were given to understand that the continuing resolution which was laboriously hammered out by the two houses of Congress last weekend would meet with presidential approval. They were angered and dismayed when it was summarily vetoed.

Washington tension rises over Nicaragua

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Nov 24

Fresh attacks by Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, on the leftists Sandinista Government of Nicaragua, reflect increasing concern in the Reagan administration that the country could become an armed camp to spread subversion through Central America.

In Mexico yesterday Mr Haig said there was some evidence that Soviet-made MiG fighters sent to Cuba could be intended for eventual shipment to Nicaragua, although he later agreed they could be there for other purposes.

But whether or not the MiGs end up in Nicaragua, it is clear Mr Haig's worries indicate growing nervousness in the United States about the direction the Sandinista Government is taking.

In a weekend television interview Mr Haig said the United States had been making a dedicated effort in recent weeks to have full normal and complementary relationships with Nicaragua.

"Unfortunately the leadership has rejected those approaches and has steadily increased its drift toward totalitarianism", Mr Haig said.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of Defence, on another weekend programme said it was clear the Nicaraguans should be aware that the United States would tolerate only so much interference in an area it regarded as being of vital interest. But the administration was not in the business of drawing firm lines

Mr Haig again at the weekend said there had been a high influx of Eastern block and Soviet weapons into Nicaragua, but Washington had not given up hope that Nicaragua would remain a friendly nation.

Administration officials leave what might be done as vague as possible. Mr Haig reaffirmed the President's recent statement that there were no plans to use American forces.



Americans show off air power in Egypt

The B52s came in from the south-west just 600ft above the ground and the little string of 500lb bombs that fell from their bomb-bay doors Looked at first like confetti Robert Fisk writes from Wadi Natroun, Egypt). They rained out of the aircraft and hit the Egyptian desert in 27 small bubbles of fire. But the blast wave came thumping over the sand and slammed into the chests of the spectators. Five Soviet block military attachés were there and General Robert C. Kingston, the commander of the American Rapid Deployment "Let them see what we are doing", he said, like a man who knew his superpower politics: "I think you cannot walk away from a Bright Star operatio and not be impressed with the projection of forces half-way around the world." The noisy Air show staged today by the United States and Egyptian air forces 15 miles west of Wadi Natroun was an impressive display of command-and-control techniyues Egyptian Soviet-built TU16 bombers—"Badger" by its Nato code-name—followed the B52s, and Egyptian MiG17's arrived to strafe the desert floor within seconds of the Badgers' departure. The eight-engined B52 Stratofortresses had flown direct from North Carolina, refuelling over the Atlantic, and they flew straight back again without touching down in Egypt, a 30-hour, 15,000 mile round trip.

Governor is dismissed

Sir Probyn Ellsworth-Inniss, the British Governor of the tiny Caribbean islands of St Kitts and Nevis, is bting dismissed by the Foreign Office in London after a long constitutional dispute with the Prime Minister of the associated state.

Sir Probyn, who became Governor of the islands six years ago, was told last Monday that his commission would be withdrawn tomorrow. Although he has described the short notice as "indecent" he has known for several months that he risked being dismissed.

Since the neighbouring island of Anguilla was formafly split from its federation with St Kitts and Nevis last year, Sir Probyn has been refusing to sign local bills which no longer refer to the state as St Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla. He argues that a British Act of Parliament which separated Anguilla from St Kitts and Nevis last December did not entitle the territory which he governs to drop Anguilla from its title.

Release of S African detainees demanded

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Nov 24

The "immediate and unconditional" release of all political detainees in South Africa, and the abolition of security legislation, were called for in a resolution adopted at a meeting in the Central Methodist Church here last night.

The meeting, attended by 500 people, was organized by the recently formed detainees' Parents Support Committee, mainly made up of middle-class whites.

The Rev Peter Storey, the president of the multi-racial South African Council of Churches, to which only the three Afrikaner-based Dutch Reformed Churches do not belong, accused the Government of choosing "the way of barbarism". He argued for a return to the "Christian rule of law", whereby men had the right to defend themselves and be defended.

Mrs Albertina Sisulu, the wife of Mr Walter Sisulu, one of the African National Congress leaders, said that it was time "to wake South Africans from their complacent political slumber" and to make them recognize "these monstrous laws" for what they were. She called on the mothers of all detainees to unite.

It is difficult to get accurate figures on detentions. But conservative estimates by independent bodies suggest that about 120 people are "banned", and 220 detained under security laws.

Banning orders can be for up to five years, and are often renewed as soon as they expire. The banned person is confined to a particular district, sometimes to virtual house arrest, can see only a few people and cannot be quoted in the newspapers. He or she usually has to report regularly to the nearest police station.

The latest batch of detentions, which led to the formation of the committee, included a number of politically radical, but non-violent, white students active in a variety of social causes.

The resolution said that the Government's use of security laws to by-pass the courts had created a habit of "official lawlessness" which would eventually destroy the fabric of society.

BAUDOUIN CHOOSES DE CLERCQ

From Ian Murray
Brussels, Nov 24

Mr Willy de Clercq, president of the Flemish Liberal party (PVV), has been chosen by King Baudouin to try to form a new Belgian government. The leader of the right-wing party—the only one to have made gains on both sides of the linguistic frontier in the general elections two weeks ago—has accepted the difficult job.

Mr de Clercq is the second choice as Prime Minister. Yesterday the King made the same offer to Dr Wilfried Martens, the Flemish Social Christian leader, who has been Prime Minister in four governments.

Dr Marten's party told him that the offer must be refused. Having been in power at the time of the crises which precipitated the early general election, the Flemish Social Christians do not feel it would be appropriate for them to take over again at this stage. Many senior members are opposed to even joining any government after the drubbing the party received at the elections, which left them as only just the largest political group in the country.

Mr de Clercq, whose tough monetarist policies have been described as a form of Thatcherism, has been eager for power since the success of his party at the election. Nevertheless, he will find it difficult, if not impossible, to form any partnership with the Socialists.

The King's selection of Mr de Clercq does not mean therefore that a government will necessarily be formed quickly, despite the urgent need for strong control at the centre to take charge

Appeal on Argentine journalists

By Denis Taylor

Señor Jacobo Timerman, former publisher of the Buenos Aires newspaper, *La Opinion*, yesterday repeated his call for an international tribunal to investigate the disappearance of journalists in Argentina, where 100 were missing, he said. Such a tribunal was needed to show the world the meaning of the fight against silence and for freedom and decency.

Señor Timerman, who was expelled from Argentina in 1979 after spending a total of more than two years in prison and under house arrest, was speaking at the annual lunch of the Writers and Scholars Educational Trust, which sponsors publication of the journal, *Index on Censorship*.

His account of his detention and torture, given in his book *Prisoner without a Name, Cell without a Number*, created a furore in the United States, and he appeared before the Senate foreign relations committee, which later refused to support President Reagan's nominee for Assisant Secretary of State for Human Rights, Mr Ernest Lefever.

Señor Timerman said yesterday that the main problem in fighting for human rights and freedom of expression was "the ideology of silence" and he criticized both the Reagan Administration and the Communists on his account.

He refuted the argument that human rights could best be fought for discreetly: "Let me tell you that there is not one former prisoner and not one prisoner in any jail in any country in the world who will accept the ideology of silence."

Sattar names his deputy

By Our Foreign Staff

Defying pressures from within his own ruling party, President Abdus Sattar of Bangladesh has chosen an economist, Dr Mirza Nurul Huda, as his Vice-President. He was sworn in at Dacca yesterday.

Dr Huda, aged 62, belongs to no political party. He served as Finance Minister in previous governments.

President Sattar resisted pressure from the ruling Bangladesh National Party which he leads, and the army, both of which hoped a vice-president would be drawn from within their ranks.

Mr Sattar bowed to economic dictates: Dr Huda has long experience of negotiating with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the 25-nation Bangladesh aid consortium.

With IMF payments suspended to Bangladesh and world aid tight, President Sattar needs Dr Huda's skills to try to regain the confidence of international lenders.

Dr Huda will step into the presidency if Mr Sattar, aged 76, vacates it through ill-health or misadventure.

As well as trying to placate international creditors, President Sattar is struggling to assert authority over the army, whose chief o fstaff, Lieutenant-General H. M. Ershad, is pressing for an army role in running the country.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Karpov's Order of Lenin

Moscow.—Anatoly Karpov, the world chess champion, has been awarded the Order of Lenin, the Soviet Union's highest civilian honour. Karpov, who beat Viktor Korchnoi, the Russian exile, in Merano, Italy, last week to retain his title for another three years, had been honoured for his "outstanding accomplishments in chess".

The award was also in recognition of his "big creative contribution to the Soviet school of chess and for his beneficial social activity". Karpov was awarded the Red Banner of Labour after he beat Korchnoi in the 1978 championships in the Philippines.

Bomb blast at consulate

Hamburg.—A 20lb bomb exploded outside the British Consulate in Hamburg, damaging the steps and breaking several windows. A police spokesman said the bomb in a red gas bottle apparently failed to explode properly and no one was hurt.

The bomb had been left in a brown travelling bag outside the consulate building, which also contains the residence of Mr John Simeon, the Consul-General.

Broglie hearing adjourned

Paris.—For the second time since it began a fortnight ago, the hearings in the Broglie case were delayed and the adjourned till today because M Pierre de Varga, one of the four men in the dock, had another fainting fit. (Charles Hargrove writes). He has been suffering from a coronary complaint and has been under treatment for a year under police supervision. On the second day of the trial, M de Varga was taken ill in court, but proceedings were resumed after he was given treatment on the spot.

The four defendants are charged with instigating, organizing and executing the shooting of Prince Jean de Broglie on a Paris street on Christmas Eve 1976. The prince, a scion of an illustrious family, was a prominent politician and co-founder, with former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, of the Independent Republican Party.

The four men in the dock are M de Varga, a business associate of the late prince: M Guy Simoné, a former police inspector; M Gérard Freche, a barman; and M Serge Tessedre.

Airliner disaster 'caused by blast'

Rome.—After studying the findings of British experts, the Rome Public Prosecutor's office has decided to call for more laboratory tests on the wreckage of an Italian DC9 aircraft that crashed in unexplained circumstances last year near the island of Ustica, killing 81 people.

British experts who examined parts of the wreckage are understood to have told Dr Giorgio Santacroce, the prosecutor dealing with the crash, that it was caused by an explosion. They have not said whether the blast occurred inside or outside the aircraft. There have been theories that the crash was caused by sabotage or by a missile.

Dr Santacroce has also asked for another search of the seabed, to find more wreckage and the flight recorder box. Attempts to find the box were made, but abandoned. The aircraft crashed in deep water. It was going from Bologna to Palermo.

Pope's attacker refuses food

Ascoli Piceno.—Nehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish terrorist serving a life sentence for shooting the Pope last May, has started a second hunger strike. According to prison officials, Agca, held in a top security prison outside this Italian city, has eaten nothing since Saturday. According to warden Cosimo "he is accepting only water", a warden said.

Gibraltar strike

Gibraltar.—Workers in Gibraltar's naval dockyard belonging to the Transport and General Workers' Union announced they would down tools today to protest against the British Government's plans to close it down from the beginning of 1983. The stoppage will last only a few hours but the workers said they would later refuse to help in closing the dockyard.

Paris car blast

Paris.—Responsibility for a fire bomb attack that destroyed two Soviet Embassy cars parked in a Paris street has been claimed by a group named after Stepan Bandera, a Ukrainian nationalist murdered 22 years ago. An anonymous telephone call to Agence France Presse just after the bombing claimed it had been carried out "to commemorate the rebirth of Ukraine".

Zia joy over jet deal

Islamabad.—President Zia ul-Haq welcomed the passing of a deadline for the United States Congress to block the sale of 40 F16 jets to Pakistan: "It shows that our difficulties have started becoming easier", he told journalists.

Success at Arab summit hangs on Saudi leaders

By Edward Mortimer

As the curtain rises in Fez, Morocco, today, on the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference, the spotlight will be on the Saudi delegation. This is a novel position for Saudi Arabia's leaders, who usually shun the limelight and confine their public role in Arab diplomacy to the pledging of moral and financial support for whatever stands are adopted by consensus.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss once said that Germany could not indefinitely remain an economic giant and a political dwarf. The same, perhaps, is true of Saudi Arabia.

In economic terms Saudi Arabia has been an important regional power since the 1960s and something of a world power since 1973. But its foreign policy has been defensive.

The wealth of the Saudi leaders, combined with sparse population, military weakness and close relations with the United States, makes them feel acutely exposed to Arab nationalist anger whenever Israel, with implicit or explicit American support, does anything particularly outragous to Arab sensibilities.

In the early 1970s they gave strong backing to President Sadat who appeared much preferable to Colonel Nasser both by his anticommunism and by his sympathy for Islamic tradition. But they dropped him like a hot potato once it was clear that, with the Camp David accords and the peace treaty with Israel, he had gone far beyond what could be accepted by even a grudging Arab consensus.

The Camp David affair was made all the worse, from the Saudi point of view, by the fact that it coincided with the Iranian revolution and was followed, in November 1979, by the most embarrassing imaginable event for the self-appointed guardians of Islam's holy places: the seizure of the Holy Mosque in Mecca, on the first day of the Muslim year 1400, by a band of armed fanatics most of whom were Saudi citizens.

The Saudis badly needed a new pillar on which to lean in their struggle to stem the tide of revolution in the Arab and Muslim worlds, and at first they fixed on Iraq.

This might have seemed an improbable choice, given the secular character of the ruling Baath party in Baghdad, its official support for pan-Arab revolution and its bloodthirsty and subversive record.

But by 1978 the Iraqi Baath had reached that stage of *embourgeoisement*, depicted by George Orwell in *Animal Farm*, where revolutionary regimes find they have something in common with their conservative neighbours — in this case hostility to the Islamic revolution in Iran.

When Iraq went to war with Iran in September, 1980, it did so with undeclared but unashamed Saudi support: Iraqi aircraft could be seen landing at and taking off from Riyadh airport virtually round the clock. But after initial successes Iraq found itself trapped in a war of attrition from which there is still no visible escape. Iraq's pretentions to lead the Arab world have had to be shelved for the duration.

These events have left Saudi Arabia in the position of a king which unexpectedly finds itself the dominant piece on the chessboard because the queens, bishops and rooks have all taken each other. It has an unwanted opportunity, which amounts also to an obligation, to take the lead in the Arab world.

The kingdom is not well equipped for this. It does not, for instance, have an efficient and well-trained diplomatic service. But it does have a very able foreign minister in the shape of Prince Saud, son of the late King Faisal.

Self-confidence and urgency have combined to convince the Saudis that their responsibilities in the Arab-Israel conflict go beyond waiting for the Arab consensus to evolve. They had to take the lead in reformulating that consensus in the form of Prince Fahd's now famous "eight points", and they have campaigned actively for the adoption of these eight points by the present summit.

They were much encouraged in this campaign by Mr Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO, and will no doubt be angered as well as disappointed by the PLO's last-minute decision to oppose the adoption of the plan. But the fact that no Arab leader has gone to Fez promising to stand up against the Saudis remains a striking indication of their prestige.

Israel is likely to veto Sinai force

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv, Nov 24

The Israeli Foreign Minister, gave a warning that the various statements made by Britain, France, Italy and the Netherlands on their participation in the Sinai peacekeeping force had not made Israel's decision on whether to accept them any easier.

His remarks have hardened the conviction in Israeli political circles that the Cabinet will vote to veto European participation

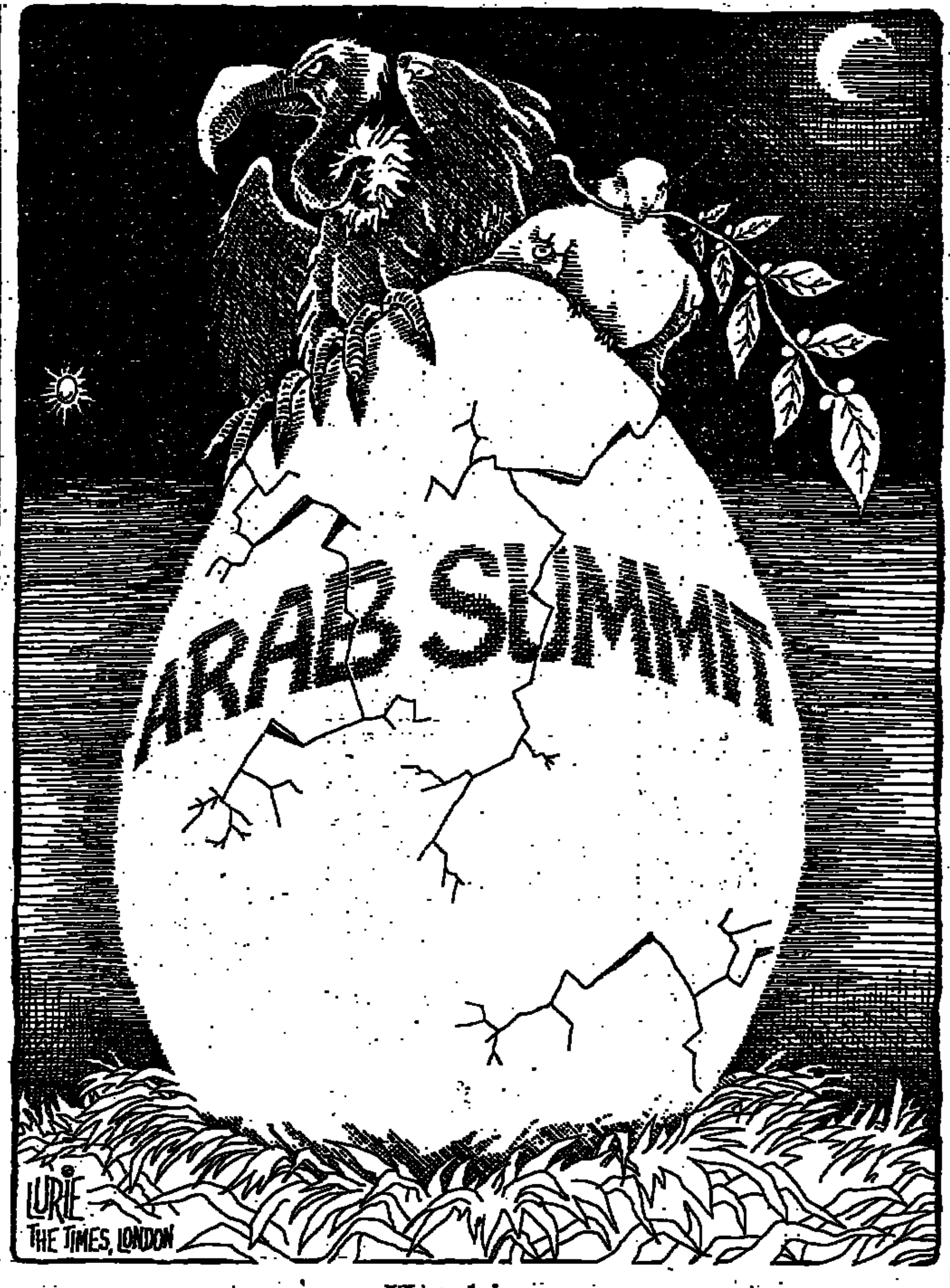
Israeli sources made it clear today that the Government gives equal weight to the different categories of statement issued in Europe yesterday. Particular anger is directed against identical sentiments expressed by the four countries in favour of both the Venice declaration and the need to involve the Palestine Liberation Organization in the peace process.

Last night, the chief spokesman of the Foreign Ministry pointed out that the European statements "seem to be in contradiction to the Camp David Agreements". It has now emerged that this initial comment was made after consultation with the Prime Minister's office and is taken to reflect the views of Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister. Although officials refuse to commit themselves further in public until the Cabinet meeting, all hint strongly that dissatisfaction felt by ministers will result in a veto — the right to which has been granted to Israel under the terms of Camp David.

The one factor which could bring about a last-minute change of heart is the heavy diplomatic pressure expected to be exerted by the United States Government, which has come out strongly in support of European participation

But in diplomatic circles tonight, there was deep pessimism about the Reagan Administration's chances of dissuading Mr Begin from exercising the veto — even though such a move could seriously damage efforts to form a genuinely multinational participation. So far the only countries to have unconditionally stated their willingness to take part in the 2,500-strong force are the United States, Colombia, Uruguay, and Fiji.

☐ Canberra: Australia will take part in the Sinai peacekeeping force, Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, announced here



Hatching

EEC ministers in generous mood

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 24

European finance ministers ignored money and in consequence seemed in a generous mood when they began discussions today on next year's EEC budget.

They seemed prepared to reach a compromise on extra money for the regional and social fund, for energy and information technology and for housing in Northern Ireland.

These non-obligatory expenses are all items which the European Parliament wants to be supported by the Community. They were voted back by the Parliament into the draft budget, after it had been cut by the finance ministers in July. Yesterday, a parliamentary delegation met the Finance Council and sought to convert the ministers to a more generous attitude.

An agreement reached today in principle to allow extra money to cover the transport costs of food aid to Poland was along the lines suggested by the Parliamentary delegation. The parliament wants to see this type of item covering food aid brought more directly under control. The conversion of the Council to the parliamentary viewpoint appeared, nevertheless, to be little more than skin deep. For their different reasons few of the ministers wanted the budget to rise above the £11,314,000m agreed by the Council meeting in July.

SMOG CLOSING DOWN ATHENS

Athens, Nov 24.—The Greek Government ordered emergency action to dispel the heavy cloud of smog over Athens.

Papandreou loses communist support

From Mario Modiano Athens, Nov: 24

The Greek Comunist Party refused today to give a vote of confidence to the new Socialist Government, because of "inadequacies and ambiguities" in its programme, especially in foreign affairs.

The Papandreou Government, which has the support of 170 Socialist deputies in the 300-member Parliament, was expected to win a comfortable majority at a midnighyt vote which will wind up the three-day debate on the Government's policy statement.

Mr Harilaos Florakis, Secretary-General of the Communist Party (KKE), the third main party in the House, said today the 13 Communist deputies would cast a blank vote. "Our impression from the debate." he said, "is that vital targets of the programme of change are being postponed indefinitely."

The Communist leader criticized the new Government for failing to commit itself on the immediate withdrawal of Greece from the Nato military alliance, and the removal of United States military bases.

He said: "The Government announced it would negotiate with the Americans a timetable for the withdrawal of the bases from Greece. But at the same time it speaks of reviewing annually the status of the bases. This means that they will be here many years. We believe the timetable should be fixed and brief."

Mr Florakis admitted that there were many positive points in the Government's programme, especially in domestic policies, such as the nationalization of monopolies. But even here, he said, there were gaps.

Another speaker, Mr Evanghelos Averoff, Deputy Premier and Defence Minister in the defeated Conservative Government, claimed that the Government had not disclosed a surprise sortie by six formations of Turkish warplanes over the Aegean just after the new government was formed. Greek fighters had been sent to intercept.

Mr Averoff claimed that the Turkish action had been a "deliberate provacation" to protest against an interview given by Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, to an American television network.

'Sweeney Todd' wins Emmy for LWT

From A Correspondent New York, Nov 24

British television productions outshone strong contingents from 22 countries in the international Emmy awards ceremony last night.

The Emmy in the performing arts category went to London Weekend Television for its study of a stage production, *Sweeney Todd: The Making Of A Musical*.

Seven other awards went to Britain at the ninth annual competition presented by the International Council of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

British productions also made a strong showing in the three other categories, outclassing 109 entries from 47 broadcasters and 16 languages.

London Weekend was also placed in the popular arts category with *End of Part One* and *Peter Cooke and Company*.

The Australian series, *A Town Like Alice* won the drama category, followed by two British placings: *The Reason of Things* from Yorkshire Television, and *The Good Soldier* from Granada TV.

France's Societe Nationale de Television Française I, won the documentary sectio with *Charters pour l'Enfer*. Two plaques in this category went to *The Clive James Paris Fashion Show* by London Weekend, and Ireland's RTE production, *Victims of Violence in Northern Ireland*.

In the performing arts section, behind LWT's Emmy, came the BBC's *The Right Royal Company*, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Royal Ballet and its production of *Isadora*.

Emmy organizers paid homage to the British productions today, saying they far outclassed American-made films.

A special award went to Sir Huw Wheldon, the former BBC chief, for his contribution to the television industry.

The name Emmy comes from the French derivative, immy — a nickname for *image orthicon*, a camera tube used in television.

Blaze kills man

The body of Mr Malcolm Booth, aged 43, was recovered by firemen yesterday after a blaze destroyed his house in Goscoat Lodge Crescent, Walsall, West Midlands.

Pakistan orders Indians out in retaliatory move

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, Nov 24

In a "tit-for-tat" exchange, the Pakistan Government today ordered four members of the Indian Embassy Staff to leave the country within 72 hours — a day after India expelled three Pakistani diplomats from Delhi, accusing them of spying.

Both sides rejected the other's allegations. The Indians called the Pakistani move "instant retaliation and pure propaganda". A Delhi spokesman said: "They were in such a hurry that they bumped one person who was on home leave.

The chain of events began on Monday in Delhi when the Indian Government ordered three members of the Pakistan mission to leave. One of them, Mr Gul Zaman, was alleged to have been "caught red-handed while receiving classified documents relating to defence matters". Delhi denied a Pakistan allegation that Mr Zaman had been beaten up by Indian police who "abducted him while on a shopping trip".

Today, the Pakistan Government summoned Mr Natwar Singh, the Indian Ambassador in Pakistan, to the Foreign Office and asked him to withdraw four members of the Indian mission within 72 hours. Their names and designations were not revealed. One of them was said, however, to have been working in the visa section in Islamabad.

It was officially stated here that three members of the Indian Consulate General in Karachi and one at the Indian Embassy in Islamabad had been ordered to leave, due to their involvement in activities prejudicial to the security of Pakistan and inconsistent with their status as members of a diplomatic mission.

According to the Pakistan Foreign Office, the Indian embassy staff had been under watch for some time.

The expulsions come at a time of rising political tensions between the two countries, although at the moment a strong Pakistan contingent is taking part in a Delhi industrial fair and the Pakistan hockey team is in India on a tour of four Test matches. After the second Test at Calcutta, Pakistan and Indian teams will play two Tests in Lahore and Karachi in Pakistan.

□ Delhi. — India is willing to discuss a no-war pact with Pakistan provided "it is serious about it", Mrs Indira Gandhi, India's Prime Minister told senior officers of the National Defence College today (Kuldip Nayar writes).

Mrs Gandhi said that India had repeatedly made the proposal, but Pakistan had rejected it in the past, "our old offer still stands and we are willing to talk", she said.

The statement indicates a change in Mrs Gandhi's attitude. When a similar offer was made by President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan last September and repeated recently, she said that it was "a trap".

The pressure of public opinion has appparently made Mrs Gandhi change her earlier posture. All opposition political parties, except the communists, had demanded that the offer be studied.

Women and natives win fight for Canadian rights

From Our Correspondent, Ottawa, Nov 24

The Federal Government and nine Canadian provinces cleared another hurdle on the path to constitutional reform last night when they reached agreement on the entrenchment of women's rights and aboriginal rights in a new constitution.

The announcement was made in the House of Commons by Mr Jean Chretien, the Federal Justice Minister, as the House debated a resolution aimed at bringing home Canada's existing constitution, based on the 1867 British North America Act.

The resolution would give effect to an agreement worked out by Mr Trudeau the Prime Minister and all the provincial premiers except Mr René Lévesque of Quebec, at a Federal-Provincial summit here on November 5.

Aboriginal rights were left out of the rights charter agreed as part of that accord. Women's rights were made subject to an overriding clause that would have enabled provincial legislatures to set them aside if they conflicted with provincial legislation.

The principal stumbling block was the fear by some provinces, notably Alberta, that the recognition of aboriginal rights might open the door to excessive land claims by Indian, Métis (mixed race) and Inuit (Eskimo) native groups.

Chinese beat Columbus to it

From Elisabeth Chang of AFP Peking, Nov 24

Contrary to the usual belief in the West, America was not discovered by Christopher Columbus and the printing press was not invented by Gutenberg. Every Chinese child learns at school that a certain Bi Shen invented printing with movable letters in the year 1041, or four centuries before Gutenberg.

So far as America is concerned, while there are Western theories that the Vikings may possibly have beaten Columbus there, children here learn that a Chinese explorer reached the American continent 1,000 years before Columbus.

Mr Fang Zhongpu, a Chinese historian, claims to have proof that Hui Shen, a Chinese Buddhist monk, landed on the Mexican coast in the fifth century.

According to Mr Fang, the descriptions given by Hui of his trip to the country of Fusang corresponded exactly to the scenes and countryside of pre-colonial Mexico.

Two American researchers, Professor James Moriarty and Mr Larry Pierson of the University of San Diego, are convinced that the Chinese were the first to discover America.

They base their argument on the fact that Chinese stones found in California were brought by Chinese vessels in a period running from about 500 BC to AD 1500.

But the Chinese look on America and printing as just two examples out of dozens of others where the West stakes claims on Chinese discoveries.

The Chinese claim to have invented spaghetti, wrongly attributed to Italians; gunpowder in the tenth century; the compass in 200 BC; porcelain; and tea and silk making.

Those are just a few items on a lengthy list, and the press here never misses a chance to praise Chinese explorers and inventors. But occasionally some of these claims get out of hand.

The provincial daily newspaper *Ningxia Ribao* described a Chinese scholar named Wan Hu as the world's first cosmonaut, when in fact this title belongs to Major Yuri Gagarin, a Russian.

The newspaper said that in 1500 AD Wan Hu tried to launch himself into space by sitting in a chair attached to 47 rockets and holding on to a giant kite with which he planned to descend to earth. Unfortunately, he died when a rocket exploded

A handbook of traditional Chinese medicine dating back 1,500 years mentions Hua Tu carrying out surgery after anaesthetizing his patients with herbal plants.





Love affair is stalled

The Chinese are continuing to stall matters in the love affair between Li Shuang, aged 25, a Chinese painter and M Emmanuel Bellefroid, aged 33, a former French diplomat in Peking and now professor at the Chinese University in Hongkong. While she was preparing to leave China to join M Bellefroid. She was arrested and on October 9 she was charged with being in an "irregular situation" and sentenced to two years "correctional education." M Bellefroid was a specialist on Chinese dissidence while in China.

Poles step up election pressure

Warsaw, Nov 24 — Students, farmers and oil workers staged strikes and protests in Poland today as pressure mounted on the Communists to hold free local elections.

Leaders of the independent students union said at least 73 of the country's universities and colleges were on strike to force the rector of an engineering college to resign, and to back a new liberal education law.

Farmers were staging occupation strikes after a warning by, Rural Solidarity leader, Mr Jan Kulag, that Poland could face famine this winter.

□ A 19-year-old Polish hijacker, who eluded anti-terrorist police last night when the plane he had commandeered landed in the wrong part of Gdansk airport, was captured today, the official news agency PAP said. — Reuter.

Generals foster an élite for democracy

From Mario Modiano, Ankara

Turkey's ruling generals have opted for a tightly regimented "democracy" as a cure for the country's political malaise. They are trying to entrust its implementation only to those who share their views.

Their first step was to commission the drafting of the new constitution to an appointed Consultative Assembly which is also to become a breeding ground for new politicians. It consists of 160 members chosen for their moderation and loyalty.

The new constitution will spring from second thoughts on how the crises, dilemmas, and deadlocks that bedevilled Turkey before the coup, could have been averted.

A preview of the new constitutional model was given by General Kenan Evren, the military leader, when he inaugurated the Assembly. He declared: "The state cannot be left weak for the sake of individual freedoms."

The general told the assembly that they did not need to take into consideration any other constitutional models. The guidelines he offered them provided for a president with effective power, a strong executive unhampered by too many judicial constraints, and a parliament free of extremists.

In this "democracy" in which there will be more checks than balances, the power of political party leaders will be emasculated while party candidates will no longer be nominated by the base.

A longer-term aim can be detected here, to restructure Turkish society by bringing new blood into its traditional elite or, at least, preventing the old one from monopolizing power.

The new law dissolving political parties and ostracizing the old politicians is a big step towards creating a new political elite.

Another recent law which abolishes the autonomy of Turkey's 18 universities has a similar purpose. It bars university professors from joining political parties and thus severs a link between academic life and politics that has existed since the creation of the republic in 1923.

The effort to change the basic social structure is also sensed by the deposed politicians who believe that the experiment is fraught with danger. One of them told me: "When the normal democratic channels, such as parties, associations, and trade unions are closed, society is forced either to total submission or to unexpected and disorderly explosions, as has happened in Iran".

This leading politician who must, in the circumstances, remain anonymous, expressed shock at General Evren's recent suggestion that the *mukhtar*, the village headman, should no longer be elected but appointed.

He said: "The *mukhtar* is the living cell of democracy. He has been traditionally elected since Ottoman times even before any laws provided for it. If a regime cannot accept this, we cannot look forward even to a modest beginning of a democratic system."

The feeling in Turkey today is that even when the Army returns to barracks, its control of the civilian administration will continue in one form or another.

For one thing, it is taken for granted that General Evren himself will be elected President of the Republic when the new constitution comes into force. Most of the new state bodies set up by the regime to control or administer various aspects of public life, have an established post for a representative of the Turkish general staff.

If the special audit committees which will be set up to act as watchdogs on government departments will report directly to the presidency, the head of state will have very wide powers indeed.

In the 14 months since the coup much of the early euphoria has worn off, but there is no doubt that the generals have been successful in reducing terrorism to manageable dimensions.

Letter from Tunis

Bourguiba's crusade for women's rights

Mr Beji Caid Essebsi, the Tunisian Foreign Minister, tells me that Tunisia is the only country with Islam as its state religion where polygamy is against the law.

One of the first things President Habib Bourguiba did when his country became independent a quarter of a century ago was to initiate sweeping legislation to free his country's women from their former second-class citizenship. Nor has he been content to allow women's rights to exist simply in legal theory but has followed up with measures giving practical application to the original intent.

Equal pay for equal work is now applied not only in government but in the private sector — and most surprising of all, in agriculture. In most African and Arab states this is a field of activity where women do most of the hard work and are derisorily rewarded for their pains.

President Bourguiba's most recent move was a law to introduce the equivalent of maintenance so Tunisian men are today much more chary of going through the Islamic "I divorce thee, I divorce thee, I divorce thee" routine.

No woman is a minister in the Government, though Mrs Faika Farouk became the first woman ambassador and was sent to London, I am told, as a gesture of respect to Mrs Thatcher whom President Bourguiba is reputed to admire.

Several are prominent in the civil service but they still feel themselves an exposed minority and as one of them put it: "We know that the President is backing us but there are five or six men working with me that I know want my job. So I just work harder than they do, until midnight if necessary."

Tunisia's "grande dame" is without question Mrs Wassila Bourguiba, the President's wife, a plump, jolly and humorous lady who is not only very active in many social causes but is influential behind the scenes in politics. A government official, or even a minister, who incurs her displeasure, has landed himself with quite a problem.

President of the Tunisian Union of Women is Mrs Fethia M'zali who, interestingly enough, held this position before her husband Mr Mohammed M'zali, was named Prime Minister last year.

□ In this month's legislative elections where the government-backed National Front won a crushing victory, the size of which even its own supporters found hard to believe, President Bourguiba stayed clear of the fray, leaving the job of leading the ruling party's campaign to Mr M'zali.

Mr M'zali, who is widely credited here with pushing the liberalization process, which has at least left Tunisia with a much freer and more interesting press, certainly gave the impression that he was taking Tunisia's first multi-party elections in 22 years seriously.

His main campaign plank was the government's economic record, of which the country has much reason to be proud, and to ram the point home he dashed around the country inaugurating new enterprises.

Two days before the poll it looked as if he was trying for a prime ministerial entry in the *Guinness Book of Records*, because on that day he managed to: address three political meetings, give several press interviews and open two textile factories, a tourism complex, a toy factory, a school, a plastics factory, a brickworks, a chicken hatchery, and a plant producing yoghurt.

□ President Bourguiba obviously reads the newly-freed press and watches and listens to the state-run radio and television, which also now carry reports critical of the status quo.

A few months ago it was reported that girls at a handicraft school were having to spend their mid-day break sitting about in draughty corridors subsisting on a diet of bread and olive oil because the school lacked dining room facilities.

President Bourguiba, deciding that this was scandalous, announced that until the school was provided with catering facilities the girls — there were about 100 of them — would come and have lunch with him at the palace in Carthage.

The ballroom was converted into a canteen and the girls were given lunch, repaying their host by reciting poetry and singing songs to him.

Though they and the President, to judge from the television reports, enjoyed all this hugely, the palatial lunches lasted only four days because it took only that long for frenzied education authorities — perhaps making their own bid for the *Guinness Book of Records* — to build and equip a school diningroom.

Godfrey Morrison

MINE WIVES PROTEST IN LA PAZ

From Our Correspondent La Paz, Nov 24

Twenty women and two men who started a hunger strike in La Paz said today that they will remain in the offices of the Roman Catholic archdiocese and the United Nations refugee office "until the final consequences" unless President Celso Torrelio Villa's military government releases miners who were arrested during a strike in southern Bolivia.

"We are willing to last it out. We can no longer take this repression," the women said at a press conference. Their fast began yesterday. They are mostly the wives of union leaders at Huanuni mine, about 140 miles from La Paz, where workers went on strike two weeks ago over a government refusal to recognize their union.

Yesterday President Torrelio said he had ordered Colonel Romulo Mercado, the Interior Minister, to "solve this problem in a correct manner through dialogue.

Maputo and Lisbon heal rift

From Our Correspondent Maputo, Nov 24

Six years after Mozambique became independent from Lisbon, President Antonio Ramalho Eanes of Portugal has received an enthusiastic welcome from the people of Mozambique. An emotional meeting with President Samora Machel marked the end of the political rift that has separated Portugal from one of its most militant former colonies.

President Eanes stepped from his aircraft to the sound of a 21-gun salute and a crowd of thousands bearing banners reading "Welcome President Eanes" and "Long Live Portuguese-Mozambique Cooperation". He embraced the Mozambican President before reviewing a military parade and troupes of traditional dancers.

He later laid a wreath on the Tomb of Revolutionary Heroes, where six victims of Portugal's colonial wars are buried, including Eduardo Mondlane, founder of Frelimo, the ruling party.

Since Mozambique won independence from Portugal in June, 1975, after a long guerrilla struggle, relations between the two countries have been tense. One reason for this was the Portuguese exodus from Mozambique: metropolitans with professional skills departed en masse, taking whatever riches they could with them.

Today Mozambique is asking the Portuguese to return, as technicians and as investors. President Eanes's aircraft carried representatives from 30 Portuguese companies, as well as Senhor André Gancalves Pereira, Foreign Minister, and four secretaries of state.

Yellow rain findings dubious

From Our Correspondent, New York, Nov 24

A team of United Nations experts has returned from a two-week long investigation of refugee camps along the Thai-Cambodian border, unable to confirm the use of chemical weapons in the area. Their findings reinforce scientific doubts over the validity of American allegations that the Soviet Union and its surrogate, Vietnam, are employing the lethal 'yellow rain' against insurgents and civilians in Cambodia, Laos and Afghanistan.

Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, in a report to be issued later today, says that the panel's findings are inconclusive and that the data gathered can neither substantiate nor reject American claims. The five member panel, does, however, believe that a 'full scale inquiry should be launched to resolve the issue one way or another.

The group would then require timely access to the areas of alleged use and 'a carefully applied procedure for the impartial collection and analysis of a wide range of samples.

The report shows that the panel's mode of operations was at best limited and that the samples received for scientific analysis were of a dubious nature.

It was unable to interview victims of the alleged yellow rain attack earlier than 23 days after they had come in contact with an allegedly contaminated area, and in some cases the symptoms described had occurred months before.

Although many of the refugees gave accounts similar to those submitted by the United States as evidence, blood and urine samples taken by the panel showed no abnormalities that would follow exposure to poisonous chemicals.

The symptoms described as nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and even death, could not be pinpointed exclusively to a yellow rain onslaught, and the panel's interviews with three camp doctors offered no suggestions that they were the result of exposure to chemical agents.

Samples in the form of a leaf, a stem and a flask of powder, have been undergoing laboratory analysis; but the rather surreptitious way in which they were received, with an anonymous note attached, offered no way for the panel to determine whether they were indeed from the alleged area of exposure.

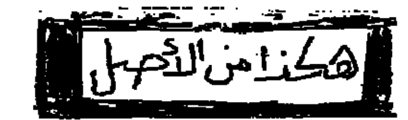
The inability of the panel to form judgment comes as no surprise at the United Nations, where it has been largely suspected the United States, in a state of overzealousness, had offered what it called concrete "physical evidence" to the assembly, before the findings could be firmly substantiated.

The United States has been trying to prove the use of chemical weapons in south east Asia by the Soviet Union since 1976 and many believe that it should have waited a while longer before bringing the issue before the General Assembly which is expected to begin debate tomorrow.

The inconclusive findings leave the United States in an embarrassing position and it is expected that it will continue to press for further investigation.

Correction

In a report on Monday on demonstrations in Bonn it was stated that Social Democrat speakers had called for balanced disarmament and attacked the "unparallelled rearmament" by the Soviet Union. Social Democrats did not participate in the demonstration and this reference should have been to the Christian Democrats.


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PARLIAMENT November 24 1981

Prison crisis: Hailsham says judges not thwarting reform

HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor and the Earl of Longford became involved in sharp exchanges in the House of Lords over the report in The Sunday Times of last Sunday which stated that judges and magistrates had thwarted a penal reform proposed by the Home Secretary which would have dramatically reduced the number of prisoners in the country's overcrowded jails.

After Lord Longford had made the same point, the Lord Chancellor said *there was not a word* of truth in it. It was an allegation which ought never to have been made.

The clash came when **Lord Longford** (Lab) asked what steps the Government was taking to deal with the grave situation revealed in a letter from Mr John McCarthy, Governor of Wormwood Scrubs prison, published in The Times on November 19.

In the letter Mr McCarthy wrote that he was "manager of a large penal dustbin", and that he could not for much longer tolerate "the inhumanity of the system in which I work".

Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said that in developing the policy to be set out in the Criminal Justice Bill, to be introduced shortly, the Home Secretary (Mr Whitelaw) had had clearly in mind the need to reinforce the trend towards shorter sentences.

The Earl of Longford (Lab) described the letter as perhaps the most startling in living memory. He said when he read it he assumed the Governor would be called upon to resign or that he had resigned already but he was glad that had not happened. Indeed, there had been widespread support for his views almost everywhere.

The Governor had since threatened to resign if some drastic action were not taken and the Home Secretary could not shirk his responsibilities by responding to the Governor's letter in clear words and urgent action.

There was general agreement that something drastic had to be done, but there was no agreement as yet on what form that action should take. He hoped this would be clarified.

Several proposals had come from the *Home Secretary* but it could be that he had had to give way under pressure from the judiciary at all sorts of levels.

Whatever the precise solution or combination of solutions, democratic government in this country was carried out through Parliament whose views were expressed through the cabinet and, in the area of prisons, through the Home Secretary of the day. The will of the people must prevail in a democracy.

It is wrong that the Home Secretary should be thwarted as he seems to be by the judiciary (he said) at all levels. The judiciary are respected custodians of legal standards in this country. They of all people must never place themselves above the law.

Lord Hailsham: There is no truth in the suggestion that the judiciary did thwart the Home Secretary or had power to do so. I have been at pains to discount that since reading the article in *The Sunday Times* and his view that the judiciary could disregard the view of Parliament is repugnant and there is no word of truth in it.

Lord Longford: There is not a word of truth in the words and observations of the Lord Chancellor.

Lord Hailsham: I do not know on what authority he has to say that. There is no truth whatsoever that the judiciary had any desire whatever to thwart the will of Parliament. I deeply resent that my word should be questioned in that matter.

The judiciary were consulted and expressed their view as they were entitled to do, but they accept the soverignty of Parliament and it is wrong to say the opposite is true. Does he challenge me when I say on my word of honour that it is untrue?

Lord Longford: I have been challenged and what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. The truth is that the Home Secretary is being persuaded by the judiciary, contrary to the will of Parliament.

Lord Hailsham: It is a question of fact not opinion. The judiciary are entitled to express a view and the Home Secretary is entitled to consult the judiciary. The judiciary are entitled to express their opinion when consulted and to suggest as Lord Longford has done that the judiciary are seeking to thwart the will of Parliament is wholly untrue and I have been at great pains to discount that.

It is an allegation which ought never to have been made. It is a question of fact and not of opinion.

Long Longford said the facts were in the sentences being passed now by judges. It was in this way that the judiciary were thwarting the will of the people. If the Lord Chancellor was happy about that, then so be it.

Lord Hailsham said Lord Longford was now changing his line. He was now talking of a plan on which the judiciary had been consulted and had expressed their opinion.

But the idea that they were thwarting the will of the people and the Home Secretary and of Parliament (he said) is entirely wrong and it ought never to have been made. Now he is making a totally different allegation which is also totally untrue. Parliament lays down the maximum sentences for certain offences and the judiciary decide on the facts of the particular case what is the appropriate sentence.

This attack on the judges is wholly wrong, ought never to have been made, is totally without foundation and ought to be withdrawn.

Lord Longford said that he saw no reason to withdraw what he had said and he would repeat every word of it.

If it was concluded by the Government of the day supported by the opposition party that sentences were too severe compared with sentences passed by other European countries then the courts had no right to defer the implementation of that policy. It was high time the issue was brought out.

Lord Avebury (L) said the present conditions in prisons were putting an intolerable strain on prison staff and there was a risk it would lead to a total breakdown of the prison system.

Although it would only be a small drop in the bucket, he suggested the removal of all mentally ill prisoners to psychiatric institutions.

Lord Hutchinson of Lullington (Lab) said the Home Secretary should convene a prison crisis meeting of no more than 10 or 12 individuals to include the Lord Chief Justice, a representative governor, preferably Mr McCarthy who was one of the more enlightened representatives of the prison officers, the probation service and the magistrates, Lord Harris of Greenwich, chairman of the Parole Board, and a Treasury minister, preferably Mr Leon Brittan.

The agenda should be simple—proposals within two weeks should be put forward to reduce immediately the prison population by 5,000 and there should be proposals within four weeks to maintain the prison population within the level of the certified normal accommodation laid down for each institution.

Governors must surely have advised the Home Office that the vast majority of the 4,000 remand prisoners should be got out of prison. Sites were available and private enterprise could erect within months if not weeks two remand centres with hostel accommodation with minimum but sensible security to house three-quarters of the remanded prisoners who were cramming prisons in filthy and uncivilized conditions.

They were unconvicted members of the public. Half of them received no custodial sentence or were acquitted.

One of the main causes for the appalling situation in prisons was the inability of the judiciary to understand that shorter sentences must be passed.

The one solution which should be brought in at once was supervised early release.

Lord Soper (Lab) said that he shared the desperation indicated by the Governor in his letter. Anybody who had seen slopping out, as he had repeatedly, would be disgusted and immediately call to mind the suggestion of the dustbin. It was disgraceful and degrading that so many prisoners had to be accommodated two to three in a cell built in the 19th century for one person.

It was highly likely that those who served long sentences would deteriorate progressively. The effectiveness of prison was more or less confined to the first fortnight of incarceration.

Lord Mishcon, for the Opposition, said something had to be done immediately to reduce the prison population by 5,000. Half remission of sentences under 12 months, except for violent crime, would reduce the prio snpopualtion by 4,000.

Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said there was no dispute that the situation in the prisons was grave. The Home Secretary had taken the lead in drawing public attention to the problems referring m. upon it. The Government's objective was to rectify that imbalance either by increasing the available resources, by making better use of resources or by reducing the demand made upon them. In practice it had to try to do all three.



Hailsham: Report untrue

Longford: Startling letter

The problem was essentially one of an imbalance between the resources available to the prison service and the demands made speech after speech to the appalling difficulties created by overcrowding and by a legacy of neglect.

Six new prisons were to be started between this year and 1984 with further starts planned, and there had been a major reconstruction of over 60 establishments during the 1980s, which constituted a substantial programme. He hoped that that gave the prison service some encouragement for the future. It was a programme which was going to make an improvement to conditions in Wormwood Scrubs.

The Government proposed to go some way to reducing the heavy burden of court escort duties by providing in the Criminal Justice Bill, to be introduced shortly, for the remanding of prisoners in their absence.

It was not intended to disturb the eight day cycle of remand provided that prisoners gave their consent and provided they were legally represented.

It was intended that the court would be able to remand offenders in their absence but only for up to a maximum of three consecutive remands.

Lord Longford was right in pointing to the overriding need to reduce the sentenced prison population if the imbalance was to be rectified. That was the Government's position, reiterated many times by the Home Secretary.

The great majority of the prison population consisted of sentenced prisoners who were there because their actions were serious enough for the courts to feel that imprisonment was the only response for the offence and the offender.

he great majority of sentenced prisoners had two or more previous convictions. Only 15 per cent were known to have less than three previons convictions.

The Government attached importance to fostering alternatives to imprisonment. The making of probation orders had begun to increase which, with the increasing crime, he found encouraging. The number of community sentence orders had increased dramatically.

But in many cases there had to be imprisonment. If consistent with the gravity of the offence and the protection of the public, sentences ought to be as short as possible.

The criminal statistics of last year showed a discernable reduction in the average length of sentence in the magistrates' and crown courts, following judgments in the court of appeal. The reduction implied a decline in the prison population of as much as 2,000 to 3000 prisoners. In practice the increase in the number of offenders dealt with by the courts had eaten into what would have been savings.

That development in sentencing policy was of crucial importance if a sustained reduction was to be achieved in the prison population.

Last summer the prison population did rise to just over 45,000 for certified normal accommodation of under 40,000. Since then the population had fallen back to just under 44,000 and had been steady for many weeks. That represented a level of overcrowding in local prisons like Wormwood Scrubs which could not be sustained.

In developing the policy to be set out in the Criminal Justice Bill, the Home Secretary had had clearly in mind the need to reinforce the trend towards shorter sentences. At the same time, a Bill of that kind must incorporate powers which enabled the courts to deal adequately with offenders.

Parliament had to provide the right statutory framework in which the courts could pass the right sentences and that was the basis on which the Home Secretary had been considering how to move ahead.

At the outset of consideration of the supervised release scheme, it had been estimated it would reduce the prison population by 7,000 but it had become apparent the figure would be far lower.

The reaction to the early release proposals made clear that it would have created a gap between the length of sentence and the actual sentence served which would be too great and which could have resulted in the passing of longer sentences.

It would also have meant that the progress made towards encouraging the courts to exercise discretion in favour of shorter sentences would have been lost.

Doubts had been expressed by the probation services and others about the likely effectiveness of a short period of supervision in a scheme of that kind.

There had been consultations, as was natural, with a variety of people including the judiciary, magistrates, the probation service and many others, and reservations had been expressed.

Because of these reservations and the damaging effect that could follow to the trend in sentencing, the Government had looked elsewhere.

There had been no question of reneging on a cast iron principle to reduce the prison population. There had been a balanced appraisal which suggested that the likely benefits were at best uncertain and at worst would work against the trend of sentencing practice which was becoming apparent.

Legal to blow own trumpet

SCOTLAND

Many parts of the Burgh Police (Scotland) Acts were obsolete and anachronistic and bore little relation to the present structure and functions of local government the Earl of Mansfield, Minister of State, Scottish Office, said in moving the second reading of the Civic Government (Scotland) Bill.

He said the Bill was designed to update existing arrangements for licensing places of public entertainment, scrap metal dealers, taxi and car hire, second-hand dealing, boat hire, late hours catering, street trading, window cleaning, and private markets.

It also revised matters of public order and duties of the police, including prostitution and the display and publication of obscene material and preventive offences.

The third area covered building and laws relating to by-laws, including a provision requiring local authorities to review by-laws periodically, and a variety of miscellaneous matters.

Some of the colourful offences to be repealed by the Bill included a ban on purchasing tobacco before 5 am and the discharging of a steam trumpet without the permission of the local authority. It would also become permissible to carry a picture on horseback, for a woman to wash a window while standing on the window sill and for a bull or stallion to do its duty alfresco.



Mansfield: Colourful offences to be repealed.

The three criteria for licensing were the protection of public safety, maintenance of public order, and the prevention of crime.

The Bill was read a second time.

Small drop in jobless welcomed

COMMONS

Welcoming the small reduction in the numbers registered as unemployed details of which had been released earlier, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said that it would take a long time before this country could begin to return to the much lower level of figures to which it was accustomed.

Mr Ioan Evans (Aberdare, Lab) had asked: Does the Prime Minister recall the poster by Saatchi and Saatchi used in the last election with an unemployment queue and the words underneath: "Is Labour working?"

Does she think Conservatism is working in view of the fact that unemployment is still hovering on the three million mark and, with YOP and other schemes, is nearer four million?

Mrs Thatcher: Unemployment is rising in all the OED countries, with the excepion of Japan and Denmark—in Germany, France, Belgium and all the others—because of the world recession. That is still causing great trouble in all countries with their unemployment figures.

There is a reduction in the numbers registered as unemployed. In particular a reduction in the numbers of school leavers. It is small, but it is welcome.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): When she talks of improvement in the unemployment figures does she not acknowledge that this is only in comparison with the terrible and unprecedented figures achieved by her administration?

Is it not the fact that the underlying trend is tragically still going upwards? Have not the figures increased by a total of 200,000 since she was saying that we had passed the bottom of the trough of the recession, or whatever it was, a few days ago?

Mrs Thatcher: It always takes much longer for the unemployment figures to fall after the increase in production than for many of the other indicators to start to go the right way. That is the well known but tragic fact. There is still spare capacity in a number of industries and there must be an increase in productivity before there can be a substantial reduction in unemployment.

Nevertheless the small reduction today of some 35,000 people is welcome. There is still an underlying increase, but that is less than it has been. We have to face the January figures, which historically tend to bring an increase.

Mr Foot: She claims to be studying these figures carefully. When is there to be any reversal of the figures on the scale of the 200,000 increase since the middle of this year? It is still continuing and the underlying trend is still getting worse. When are these figures going to turn the other way?

Mrs Thatcher: I accept the advice he gave when he was answering unemployment questions from this side of the House. He did not forecast it precisely in the future.

Unemployment is rising in Germany, France and all over the OECD with the exception of Japan and Denmark. Tragically also it will take a long time before we can begin to get back to the much lower level of figures to which we have been accustomed.

Later Mrs Thatcher said, in answer to a question about the use of redundancy payments, that some 120,000 new businesses had been started this year.

This (she added) demonstrates that the spirit of enterprise is still very much alive. (Conservative cheers.)

Action on rates promised by Mrs Thatcher

The Green Paper on the alternatives to the domestic rating system should be out next month, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, indicated at question time. She pointed out, amid protests from Labour MPs, that the revenue from the present rating system, if it were reformed would have to be replaced by revenue from elsewhere.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet, Chipping Barnet, C) called upon the Prime Minister to consider the increasing unfairness of the rating system.

There is an increasing impatience on the Conservative benches (he said) over the consultation paper on the alternatives to the domestic rating system. This consultation paper should be a short, quick step radically to reform the rating system by a Bill in this Parliament. (Conservative cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: I share Mr Chapman's views, and so does the Government, about the unfairness of the rating system. The Green Paper should be out next month. We shall then go into a period of consultation. On the speed of that will depend whether we can bring forward a Bill which I think it would be advisable if we could do, in the present Parliament.

Mr John Farr (Harborough, C): Such an announcement on the rating system would be received throughout the country with great and overwhelming support. (Cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: I hope that is correct. I would have to make it clear that the revenue which comes in from the rating system—both the domestic and the industrial and commercial—would have to be replaced by revenue elsewhere. (Labour cries of "Oh").

One cannot have expenditure which is not covered by taxation.

Doctors get kit to help smokers

HEALTH

Every family doctor had recently received from the Health Education Council and Action on Smoking and Health a special kit designed to help doctors advise their patients on giving up smoking, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, stated. He welcomed this. There had been no change in Government policy on smoking.

Mr Fowler also said general practitioners were well placed to advise patients on the dangers of smoking and had an important part to play in helping people to stop.

Mrs Sheila Faith (Belper, C) had asked him to put greater emphasis on the family doctor's role in his anti-smoking campaign in view of the council's finding that 5 per cent of patients stopped smoking when advised to do so by their own doctor.

The death rate from lung cancer and heart disease was greater here than in other countries. Would he encourage doctors to distribute these information kits to patients? If doctors persuaded 25 people a year to give up this pernicious habit, in a year, half a million people would have stopped smoking.

Mr Fowler: Smoking is a danger to health and my aim is to reduce the toll of disease and death caused by smoking.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke on Trent, South, Lab): Is the Government going to give way to the pressures and backtrack on its commitment to impose statutory control over advertising if voluntary effort fails?

It is time to ban advertising about smoking cigarettes, including the televised sponsorship of smoking, because of the ill-health and cost involved.

Mr Fowler: There has been no change in Government policy on smoking. Successive governments have preferred voluntary agreements and we are now examining these agreements. No decisions have yet been taken.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C): He should reject some of the advice given today. If we point out the dangers of smoking, it is not part of the Government's job to continue to try to be grannies on every issue. Let us leave people alone for once. There are sufficient warnings for intelligent people.

Mr Fowler: There is a responsibility on health ministers to give advice on the dangers of smoking. I will continue to give it.

During questions to the Prime Minister, **Mr John Home Robertson** (Berwick and East Lothian, Lab) said: There is widespread speculation in the Prime Minister's household about tobacco advertising. (Conservative protests) will she give her own views on this?

Mrs Thatcher: I do not smoke, I do not answer for opinions in my household on any particular thing, but only for my policy as a Government. (Conservative cheers)

Chalker: Thrift not penalized

SOCIAL SECURITY

A denial that the Government was penalizing thrift in taking people's savings into account when applications for supplementary benefit were made came from Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South West Staffordshire, C) had asked her: How long has it been Government policy to penalize thrift?

Mrs Chalker: It is not Government policy. We cannot ignore that some people have amassed considerable amounts of capital. Where people have saved for a rainy day and that rainy day has occurred, the Government has a right to take account of some of that capital.

But allowing £2,000 has been considered fair on the majority who apply. We know people lie outside the limit.

Mrs Chalker said earlier that the supplementary benefit policy inspectorate were reviewing the application of the supplementary benefit capital rule, including the effect of the level of the disregard. Ministers would get its report shortly.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab): There is a deep and understandable sense of grievance felt by men in their fifties who are made redundant and cannot claim a penny supplementary benefit because they have saved, over their working lives, £2,000 or more.

Sometimes redundancy money is included in the £2,000. When will she drop this penal measure against ordinary people?

Chalker: Government not penalizing thrift.

Mrs Chalker: We have asked the inspectorate to take a look at all these difficult problems. I cannot anticipate its report.

Statement on death grants

The Government would make a statement on the future of the death grant before Christmas, Mr Hugh Rossi, Minister for Social Security, said. He added that the Government was most reluctant to impose upon anyone a means test at the time of bereavement.

Mr James Dempsey (Coatbridge and Airdrie, Lab) said that when the death grant was increased in 1967 it represented 76 per cent of the cost of a funeral; today it only represented 9 per cent. There *should* be an urgent and substantial increase.

Mr Rossi: If we increased the death grant to represent its 1967 value, that would mean relating it to a figure of £145 per death grant. The total cost of doing that to everybody, whether they needed it or not, would be £98m.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab): I understand the complexity of this but would he give a commitment that there will be no means test involved with the death grant?

Mr Rossi: We are looking at ways of being able to make an increase in the benefit by passporting means, but these matters are still under consideration. No final conclusion has been reached. I cannot make any commitment in advance of the statement.

TV programme unbalanced

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, gave an assurance during exchanges about alleged harassment of single parent families by inspectors of her department that she is investigating complaints made in a television programme.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab) had asked: Did she see last night's TV programme alleging that people being investigated by the special squads are taken into a room and locked in until they provide answers apparently sought?

Will she make a statement, have a full investigation and lay down that if someone is to be investigated, they are allowed to have some friend with with them or at least are not locked in?

Mrs Chalker: I have seen the programme. In all my experience I find it to be an unbalanced programme.

It is unbalanced for a number of reasons, one being that there is often no privacy and security for the person concerned if they have at any time been in a room in which the door was unlocked.

We have had in the public waiting areas of our local offices frequent cases where people have burst in through doors, which destroys privacy altogether.

I am looking closely at all the allegations made in that film, but they were vastly exaggerated and unbalanced in their presentation. I will certainly look into the matter a good deal further.

More Government help for British Rail

TRANSPORT BILL

The trading position of British Railways had, if anything, worsened beyond what was foreseen this summer and losses on passenger revenue were now such that the Government had concluded they were beyond the measures which the Board could take to recoup them within the year, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said. He was moving second reading of the Transport (Finance) Bill.

The ceiling on the passenger grant for 1981 would therefore be raised to a level of £110m above that accepted at the start of the year. The Government had not merely maintained the level of grant support to the passenger business this year, but as an exceptional measure had found it necessary to make a substantial increase to carry the level of support well beyond anything previously paid.

The Bill would increase the financial limit on the aggregate borrowing of the British Railways Board by £200m to £1,100m. It would increase the financial limit of public service compensation from £3,000m to £6,000m.

The Bill would increase the National Bus Company borrowing limits from £200m to £250m.

The increase in British Rail's borrowing limit did not reflect a change in Government policy.

The Government would keep the position and prospects under urgent review with the Board. At the same time, the figures could leave no doubt of the urgent need for management and unions to press ahead with changes to improve the financial position.

The great difficulties this year did not prevent looking ahead, and the picture was not as black as many claimed. Substantial progress had been been made in the reduction of posts and manpower numbers on the railway. Traffic losses were bound to mean the continuation of these changes. The completion of detailed agreements in these areas was urgent.

The Bill increased by £200m the limit of Government financial assistance to the Port of London Authority and the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company.

The ports industry generally accepted that it was in the national interest and in the interest of other ports to remove the threat of closure that had been hanging over London and Liverpool, Britain's two biggest ports, to deal swiftly and effectively with manpower surpluses, and to work as rapidly as possible towards restoring their long term economic health.

Both port authorities had submitted detailed plans on how to return to profitability. The main message was that further rationalization and reductions in manpower were needed over the next few years.

Much had been achieved but both ports continued to need substantial help in severancs and capital investment over the next few years and to meet the operating costs in 1982.

There must be a clear end in sight to the need for operating subsidies (he said), I have told the chairmen of both authorities that it is my intention that grants for meeting deficits should not be available after the end of 1982.

He had asked the chairmen to submit detailed plans for meeting the Government's financial remit and for breaking even in 1983.

Mr Albert Booth, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, (Barrow-in-Furness, Lab) said the Government was placing the publicly-owned transport industries in a strait-jacket so tight that they would be forced to make savage reductions in services, almost irrespective of the social hardship they might cause or the need of British industry to have an efficient and modern transport system.

Clauses providing for British Railways' borrowing grants, had to be judged against a background of the massive decline in British Railways and the threat of almost total collapse of certain important sectors.

British Railways could be said to be the foremost victim of the Tory Government's financial doctrine which required it to seel its assets, particularly any profitable activities, and leave the loss-mak-

Mr Roger Moate (Faversham C) said the Government should maintain strict control over the railway electrification programme and lay down strict conditions. But the Government was losing control of the situation if it allowed the break-up of the electrification team to proceed.

Mr Peter Fry (Wellingborough, C) said if the Government considered alternatives to providing expensive and underused country rail services, there would be more money for investment in electrification.

Mr Donald Dewar, for the Opposition (Glasgow, Garscaddon, Lab) said the Opposition wanted to see the present rail network preserved. Substantial track reductions would be a tragedy.

There was no direct correlation between what had been announced today and increased investment so badly needed in the British Rail network, although it might help compensate for declining passenger revenue caused by recession.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said there had been no change in the Government's position on rail electrification. The Government was waiting for the railways to put forward the revised business programmes for Inter-City and freight and the submissions on particular routes to show they were profitable.

He had read with some astonishment the report in *The Times* today that a businessman was to be brought in to look at British Rail. A review of British Rail's finance was first suggested to the Government by BR. The chairman had agreed on the desirability and need for such a review.

The idea that it is going to be some kind of Beeching review (he said) is an extraordinary phrase that has crept into the press reports. The Government has no desire to see any substantial cut in the network.

The Bill was read a second time.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Transport. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, second reading. Lords (2.30): Debates on relationship between European Nato countries and America and on steps to encourage employers to expand their workforces.

Out with the Brixton police and a profile of Lord Scarman on the day he reports on the riots

On patrol with 'pig in the middle'

Five sets of eyes stare, more frightened than hostile, from black faces, and one from white, in the poorly-ventilated cells and detention rooms behind the communications room, the fingerprinting and photographing room, the doctors' examination room and the area (no room was provided) where detainees are charged. The blacks have been charged with various forms of robbery and theft — no area in Britain has a higher rate of mugging, predominantly of white females by young black males — the white man in connexion with a haul of 400-odd stolen bicycles.

Inspector Jane Folan, the duty officer, takes a series of decisions with impressive crispness in her Stirling accent. Meanwhile a ceaseless trickle of the public comes to the counter of the main room, which is manned by two young PCs under a sergeant. There is a pretty black girl wanting to stand bail for her brother; people of all hues bringing in car documents missing when they were stopped, others on bail signing the relevant register.

Behind where I am pretending to be invisible, a shelf-full of ledgers gives an idea of the range of the police's concerns: missing persons; "limited inquiries" (not much to be done, for example wives abandoning husbands or vice versa); "occurrences", including sudden death, attempted suicide, damage done by police when forcibly entering, PCs injured in the street; "incidents" ranging from bomb hoaxes to dog bites; and a "stop book" for all those stopped in the street — where, why, when.

Confusingly, Brixton police station houses not only the divisional police force, consisting essentially of 267 uniformed officers and 27 CID men, but also the superstructure of L District, under Commander Brian Fairbairn, whose impoverished kingdom of 10.6 square miles and 250,000 souls (roughly a quarter "ethnics or descendants", in the jargon) also embraces Streatham, Clapham and Kennington.

On the first floor is the canteen, the offices of the 38-man L District robbery squad, and some administrative offices; on the second, those of Brixton's own Chief Superintendent Bob Marsh, his deputies, and the CID; on the third, Commander Fairbairn, his deputy, and the L District CID chiefs.

Two days there sharpens appreciation of the police's peculiar situation. Esteemed by the silent majority, but reviled by activists of many persuasions, they can easily come to see themselves as an under-appreciated oasis of order and discipline in a sea of indifference, hostility and active nastiness. "We are really pig in the middle", said Commander Fairbairn, a man of considerable bonhomie and humour who was felled by a brick in the riots, but rose to lead his men again. "We are the visible sign of anything that goes wrong with society", said Chief Superintendent Bob Marsh, a lean, handsome 41-year-old.

The risks of going in

One of the chief aims of the police at Brixton is to prevent the spread, or worsening, of the lawlessness prevailing in Railton Road. Although not a "no-go" area, it is in parts a "no-enter" area. The police say they know that various crimes and offences are being committed in a small group of seedy houses and "clubs" there. Drugs, they believe, are being used and sold; spirits illegally dispensed; stolen goods, including some muggers' takings, divided up and sold. But they cannot go in without risk to their lives, if few in number, or the danger of causing a riot, if they enter in strength.

Commander Fairbairn described to me a potentially very serious incident of two nights earlier. Two constables in an area car had chased one of a group of black youths who had been rifling clothes from Burton's the tailors, in the High Street. The youth they focussed on had sought refuge in a club over a car-hire firm in Atlantic Road. They went in after him, and he jumped out of a rear window. They could not at first get out, but eventually apprehended him.

By then some 200 blacks had assembled. Police reinforcements arrived, to be greeted by bottles and bricks. One policeman's knee was injured. Fairbairn called off his men, deeming the risks disproportionate to the offences.

In that sort of climate it is hard not to feel some sympathy for Superintendent Finlay MacLennan, the district community liaison officer for more than two years. A soft-spoken Highland Scot, he describes himself as the link man between the police and the community.

MacLennan and other officers regret the way the black community distinguishes between home-beat PCs and their reliefs. One of the latter had tried to stop a black who was emerging from a "club" in Railton Road the previous evening with a suspicious object in his hand, only to have his face slashed at with the object (a knife). It would probably not have happened to the home-beat officer, Brian Elliott, at 39 and almost 6ft 5in, the epitome of the gentle giant and friendly neighbourhood bobby.

He had been at Brixton for 16 years and on that beat for four or five, he said, as we strode through the keenly-priced fruit, vegetable and other stalls of the market and its many arcades.

There was certainly plenty of evidence in two hours spent with him on the beat that PC Elliott enjoyed good relations with a broad cross-section of the community. That had not prevented him from being nearly killed in the second July riots.

The riots had inevitably left a deep mark on all those involved, including PCs Malcolm Stewart and Martin Bagg, both aged 26, respectively the driver and "operator" of the striped white Rover area car in which I spent a fascinating seven hours.

Like the police as a whole, the two area cars operate 24 hours a day, in three eight-hour shifts with a 45-minute break. Ours was call-signed Lima 4. You were partly on the lookout, and partly



PC Elliott: epitome of the friendly bobby

showing the flag, Stewart explained, but your life was really dictated by the Scotland Yard radio which maintained a steady flow of "Shouts" on Channel 3 to area cars south of the river, based mainly on 999 calls.

Shout number 1 was to a disturbance at a boys' club in Commercial Way. Allegedly a group of black youths had been disrupting a market stall at the club, had been thrown out, returned with sticks and tried unsuccessfully to get the stallholder out to beat him up. Stewart, who had done a 10-week special driving course, screwed the Rover up to 60-65 mph in short, exhilarating bursts through the evening rush-hour traffic. By the time we got there, the youths had dispersed.

We were just coming out of the Overton estate, where the entire ground floor of one block consists of hundreds of empty garages — any car left there is liable to be vandalized — when we received our most dramatic call of the evening.

It was to a disturbance at a fairground little more than a couple of hundred yards away. We were evidently destined to be first on the scene, and Stewart took a commendably long time to turn the car around in a narrow street. We could see numerous black youths milling around, and as we arrived a white boy approached with a very bloody nose. He had tripped up, he explained, straining credulity. We entered the fairground, where three black boys were kicking a white one on the ground, watched by some 15 others. Bagg, a London University micro-biology graduate before he joined the police two years ago, sailed in and tackled the chief kicker — landing, it transpired, in a pile of dog-dirt — while Bob Cox, the South London area press officer, held on to the object (Irish and reeking of drink) of their attentions, and Stewart raked the remaining spectators with his massive torch, warning them to keep away.

Reinforcements arrived in one of the "instant response" vans initiated since the riots, and removed the kicked Irish youth, while we took off the chief kicker in the now-reeking Lima 4 car.

My visit had proved nothing. But it had helped me to appreciate just how taxing it is to be exposed daily to some of Western man's least lovable activities. In Brixton that exposure is particularly intense.

Roger Berthoud

What makes this judge the one to sort out the mess

Lord Scarman was asking Lord Hailsham the other day how he should brace himself for the public attention which will accompany the publication of his report into the Brixton riots. The limelight would be switched off after about three days, the two men agreed. Then he could retire to his customary obscurity.

He recounted this with a suspicion of a grin: he will not disappear and he is not even likely to try. Almost in the same breath, he said that although he had not accepted any speaking engagements for this year, he has already been booked for several in 1982. Whatever his report may say, it will not just speak for itself; if it sets off a debate, the author intends to be on the platform.

He has always been an advocate. He has enjoyed being a judge more than a barrister, but he has combined it with a steady championing of politico-legal causes. Although his part in the Northern Ireland, Red Lion Square and Grunwick inquiries has cast him in the public mind as the neutral salve for the consciences of governments, there is a political animal just underneath the judges robes.

He enjoys talking and does so with charm. He works in a small and simple office upstairs in the House of Lords, accompanied by the death rattle of "Queen Victoria's central heating". Like many lawyers, he keeps pace with work by starting early, sometimes at 4 am. "I agree with Gladstone that no man really needs more than four hours sleep a night, although I usually get more." He and his wife live in a Knightsbridge flat; he can be glimpsed buying groceries in Harrods. As a young man he played the B flat tenor trombone, but his musical interests now centre on opera: he likes Mozart and Verdi and, with reservations, Wagner. There is something missing, he said, in a day on which he hears no music.

The hero whose example propelled him towards the Bar was not a Lord Chief Justice or a famous Old Bailey QC, but that political advocate Lloyd George. "It sounds very dated now, but as a schoolboy I was inspired by his career and image. I was fascinated by the art of advocacy and I still am. At that age I had no thought of becoming a judge. Judges meant no more to me or my family than they do to any ordinary person."

His father began work as an insurance clerk and worked his way up to become a partner of his firm; the young Leslie was brought up in Streatham, moving later to the Surrey-Sussex border as Scarman senior grew more prosperous. The prosperity was spent on educating his children: Leslie went to Radley and onwards to Balliol College, Oxford, with the aid of a scholarship. "I was always a hard worker; I made up in industry what I lacked in talent."

He was called to the Bar in 1936 and spent three years as a "briefless barrister" before being called up; his legal career was not really to begin until he was demobbed in January 1946. The interruption was not welcome at the time, but turned out to be a "blessing in disguise".

"This is the terrible thing about war: for some people it can be stimulating and broadening experience. That is no case for war, but just to say that I drew from it things that could not have been learnt any other way. It makes me think that we need to revise higher education to give people a broad-based experience of mankind, which it nowadays doesn't always provide."



Lord Scarman among friends: '125 out of 100 for public relations'

The first two years gave no clue of what was to follow. He went into the administration and special duties branch of the RAF and after two years behind a desk in Abingdon was made a staff officer in North Africa.

He was soon attached to the Mediterranean Air Commander-in-Chief, Arthur (later Lord) Tedder, whom he followed to Sicily, Italy, and Northern Europe. It was a friendship which continued until Tedder's death. Scarman wrote parts of his huge report on the 1969 Belfast and Londonderry riots in a caravan on the Hebridean island of Uist which Tedder had used as a wartime headquarters.

He was in the room when General Jodl surrendered to Eisenhower at Rheims.

As he returned to his old chambers, social and political changes were giving birth to new law and it was there that Scarman found his opportunity. "Mainstream administrative law was the modern opportunity for advocacy. People thought, and still do, that the exciting stuff is libel and crime. The real quality of advocacy is the cross-examining of expert witnesses, which I have always enjoyed. You have to acquire sufficient expertise to probe for their weaknesses; every expert has a weakness — you just have to find it."

His hobbies were architecture and music. He took a case in Worthing defending the existence of a "very charming Regency house" whose site was coveted by a developer. He succeeded and the house still stands. He built up a substantial planning practice and a sideline in aircraft accident inquiries.

He was 49 when the invitation to ascend to the bench arrived; another barrister elevated the same day was one John Widgery QC, later Lord Chief Justice. To his surprise, Scarman was told that if he accepted, he would do divorce and probate cases, an area of law he knew little about. He was to do it for only four years, starting a lifelong interest in family law and judging the longest probate case ever heard. It lasted 91 working days, and the judgment ran to 24,000 words; one party took out a £300,000 insurance policy in case the judge died and the case had to be heard all over again.

Religious instinct is very deep

In 1965 he was made chairman of the newly-created Law Commission, a body charged by the equally new Labour Government with the job of straightening the tangle of law assembled piecemeal over centuries and with making some much-needed reforms. In the legal world, it may be Scarman's monument: even his critics concede that it was an inspired appointment which simultaneously succeeded in allaying the fears of Conservatives who saw it as subversive and at the same time proposing reforms which were carried through on to the statute book and have stayed there.

Not all the changes were technical: the 1969 Divorce Reform Act, which revolutionized the basis for both divorce and the distribution of maintenance, was largely the work of the commission. Since Scarman left it in 1972, it has never had the same influence or momentum.

He was already doing a unique, quasi-judicial job and enjoying promoting the commission's ideas at any available opportunity. It was this willingness to move in the outside world and the talent for public relations which apparently distinguished him from other judges when a beleaguered James Callaghan looked for a man to head the tribunal investigating the Northern Irish disturbances in the summer of 1969.

He was told that it might be a six-week job and it took three years; he continued as chairman of the Law Commission. He took a house on the County Down coast at Bangor and his wife and poodle moved there with him. Lady Scarman enrolled at a technical college in East Belfast to brush up her French and German. As he arrived at Aldergrove airport on his first visit, he was asked a question by a waiting journalist for which he thought he had prepared.

"Are you a Protestant or a Catholic?"

"Neither. I'm an agnostic."

"That's not good enough. Are you a Protestant agnostic or a Catholic agnostic?"

"I was flummoxed. Well, no, I was *entertained*. The journalist won." I asked him if he had any religious belief and it was the only moment at which the confidently articulate flow slowed almost to silence. "That's a very difficult question", he said, staring out of the window and proceeded to give the following carefully considered answer after a short pause to look up "agnostic" in a dictionary. "I don't believe in personal immortality. I'm a theist, not an atheist. I'm not against religion; my own religious instinct is very deep, but it's not institutional in any way at all. I don't believe there's such a thing as a man without religion, although I recognize the logical possibility that God does not exist. I was baptized Church of England of course."

His job in Northern Ireland was to convince the Catholic community that he was worth talking to and that his conclusions were worth hearing. He began deploying the arts of stage management which were to be called on again. He organizes in advance the effects of everything from the layout of the desks to the type of ushers and how they should behave. Watching him open the Brixton inquiry, it was clear that he had rehearsed for most contingencies and deftly by-passed the snags which did crop up.

His attentive courtesy towards witnesses occasionally left irritated men in its wake at Brixton. His procedure sometimes made it impossible for the police to cross-examine witnesses alleging police misbehaviour. One such witness gave his evidence without challenge and was profusely thanked by Scarman for his pains. Policemen present muffled their protests that the man's motives could have borne some examination: according to them, he was one of the most active brothel-keepers in south London with a lengthy criminal record to match.

By the time the Northern Ireland report appeared in 1972, it was instant history without much relevance to the present. It is, however, the work Scarman has said he would like to be judged by. Its purpose and achievement were "the killing of myth and preventing the growth of legend. But you can't say more than that. Nobody reads it of course — except in Northern Ireland."

Throughout the seventies, there was speculation that he would succeed Lord Denning as Master of the Rolls, but Denning, appointed before compulsory retirement rules were made, hung on. The idea appeared finally dead when Scarman was elevated from the Court of Appeal, to which he had gone in 1972, to the Lords to become Baron Scarman of Quatt in the County of Salop.

From the early seventies, he took a leading part in the debate over whether Britain should have a Bill of Rights to guarantee certain fundamental principles which could not be overturned even by Parliament, or only in exceptional circumstances. In one of his seminal Hamlyn lectures on the subject, he asked Cromwell's: "Of what assurance is a law to prevent so great anevil if it lie in the same legislature to unlaw it again?" He says that on each occasion we are found wanting at Strasbourg, something better than reluctant, piecemeal adjustment is essential for Britain to fulfil its obligations to the European Convention on Humans Rights.

It is a view of the constitution which, as its critics immediately pointed out, would shift power towards the hands of the judges, who will wield the influence invested in the American Supreme Court. Scarman issues emphatic invitations to his audiences to trust judges. He thinks that a decade will see a new constitutional settlement on these lines.

Scarman is often assesed as a "left-wing" judge; taking it as a relative term and comparing him to the rest of the judiciary, there is some truth in it. The nearest he has come to a frank description of his political view was to say that it is "without using capital letters 'liberal and radical'". His critics on the far left and far right label him a "limousine liberal".

But what really distinguishes him from many of his colleagues is his view of the judge's political role. He does not mind being summoned to sort out sensitive political messes resulting in breakdowns of public order, because judges are part of the "overall apparatus of government". His opponents are the judges who think that courtroom oratory is one thing, but press interviews quite another, who believe that lawyers should confine themselves to being legal technicians and who relish appearing by magic on their courtroom thrones, reaching them by special corridors designed to keep them separate from the public.

The men Scarman picks as good examples of what he likes to see are men with whom he cannot share every political belief. "Being a judge used to be thought of as an isolated life. I have always thought that judges should be more exposed to public life and it's happening with men like Hailsham and Denning, to take two of the best examples, who are prepared to expose themselves, warts and all. Occasionally one says something silly but not often."

'Too committed to particular views'

There is more than a touch of vanity in this remark and at the very least a powerful self-assurance which qualifies the image of Scarman as a flexible listener. His every word at the opening of the Brixton hearings suggested that he had made up his mind that the police had misunderstood and undervalued the idea of "sensitive" policing. "I'm not sure that he is the quintessential judge," said one lawyer who has watched him frequently. "He is not quite the detached figure scrupulously weighing every ounce of evidence as he hears it. He's much too committed to particular views. But in terms of public relations at Brixton, I'd give him 125 out of 100".

Whatever the reaction to the Brixton report, Scarman's lanky figure will stride off to whatever comes next. He quoted a piece of advice tendered by his Scottish mother: "Leslie, always look forwards, never backwards." He has been asked to write memoirs, but regards it as something to be left until he is too feeble to do anything else. That time has not yet come. He is now 70 and in five years time will retire as a judge and sit as a member of the House of Lords, which he says should make "a stimulating interest for one's old age."

He will be released from the judge's vow of political silence and I said that I had the impression he might enjoy that. He smiled a huge smile. "I make no comment."

George Brock

Winter, but no retreat for the Poles

The winter is closing in on Poland. Long queues stretch into the grey, freezing drizzle. Lines of cars, often empty, wait for scarce petrol. The shops are sparsely stocked or empty, and even ration cards go unhonoured. When the power goes off in multi-storey blocks there is no heat, no light, no lift, and no water. To wait six or seven hours in a queue is not unusual.

Yet nobody I met on a recent visit wanted to put the clock back to the old system, so discredited has it become. Of course there are people in the apparatus still trying to restore it but for most ordinary people, and for many in the party itself, the new freedoms acquired over the past year are still sufficiently hopeful to compensate for hardship. "In the long run", said one, "there is no bread without freedom because economic reform demands political reform".

Nevertheless, the immediate future remains highly uncertain. It is generally assumed that the Russians will not intervene unless there is civil war, or an attempt to abandon socialism altogether and leave the Warsaw Pact. But as the economy spirals downwards and frustration grows nothing can be wholly excluded. Significantly, perhaps, party organs have been asking Hungary for archive material on the uprising of 1956. The best that can be said is that disaster is not inevitable. There is just a chance of putting together sufficient agreement to hold the peace until reforms begin to work.

The most immediate problem is that the old governing apparatus is in an advanced state of decomposition. Even the police in some areas are more or less laying down their batons and allowing petty crime to flourish, complaining that they are unable to arrest anyone for fear of provoking a riot. The party itself is deeply demoralized. At the lower levels its members are drifting away or waiting to see which way the wind is going to blow. Higher up there are serious differences over policy.

The democratically elected party congress in the summer achieved nothing except to bring in a lot of inexperienced people elected largely because of their lack of association with the past. It did not change the administrative apparatus of the party, much of which remains entrenched in stubborn fear of the future.

Meanwhile the public remains totally sceptical of anything the Government does. As one of its leading opponents said recently, if the Government were suddenly to lay a golden egg everbody would say it was not an egg, not golden and not laid by the Government.


Empty shelves and patience in a Polish grocer's . . . a queue for food that often is not there

Against this unpromising background the Government is trying to put through a series of far-reaching reforms, including freedom of travel and a new economic system inspired partly by the limited market mechanisms of Hungary and partly by the industrial self-management of Yugoslavia. Some of the reforms are likely to be unpopular at first, and will anyway take a long time to bring results, especially if the new system is run by the old apparatus.

Support for new measures

It is therefore clear to most senior people that there is no hope of success unless the Government can win support for new measures from more representative bodies than itself, such as the Church and Solidarity. Hence the historic meeting between General Jaruzelski, who still combines the jobs of First Secretary, Prime Minister and Defence Minister, Mr Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity, and Cardinal Glemp, the Polish Primate. This has now been followed by a series of meetings with Solidarity. But there is still no clear concept on either side, nor agreement between the two, on what new structures are possible. Senior party men speak of the need for 10 years of restructuring.

Some government people are believed ready to accept real power sharing. But Mr Stefan Olszowski, the powerful party secretary responsible for the media, said in a recent speech that the party would never agree to coalition government. He spoke instead of a special commission composed of "political parties and all social forces" to draw up a programme of national agreement. Vice-Premier Mieczyslaw Rakowski, on the reformist wing, also said recently that the Democratic Party and the Peasant Party, which until recently had only nominal identities of their own, should now join with women's and youth organizations in a new body designed to reconstruct the relationship between society and authority.

"The party cannot remain a lonely wanderer on the Polish plains", he said, "it must traverse them together with the whole nation, and the nation must be convinced that the march is in the right direction. This means that the era of ruling by command has gone forever". But in spite of his sincerity, his recipe looks to some people suspiciously like a mere revival of the old Front of National Unity, a phoney grouping of supposedly representative bodies under communist domination.

Solidarity's response is only partly worked out. Some of its leaders would probably be willing to share power but others fear that this would be the beginning of the end of independence. Solidarity was formed as a defensive body to represent the workers and check the actions of the Government. It is not an initiating body. But since there is now scarcely any government left, and since it is pointless to press for higher pay when there is nothing to buy, Solidarity is being sucked into sharing responsibility.

Powers in the party

Its more moderate members accept this as necessary at a time of national crisis but they are wary. They point out that the reforms have not yet reached the point of no return. There are still powerful forces in the party waiting for the opportunity to claw back lost authority and destroy Solidarity.

Therefore Solidarity's support must be conditional. Among other things it wants safeguards such as an independent judiciary, access to the media and industrial self-management. Meanwhile it is thinking in terms of some kind of a council of trustees, eminent people who would enjoy public trust and have access to government information as well as to the media. They would give or withhold their "seal of approval" on government measures.

But there is a lot of disagreement and disorganization in Solidarity; sometimes it looks like one vast, turbulent student meeting. This makes it very difficult for the authorities to get agreement on specific measures. At the top there are splits over principles and personalities, and a lot of criticism of Mr Walesa. At the grass roots there is more support for Mr Walesa but also, paradoxically, a huge proliferation of radical demands, with reckless young men elbowing their way into prominence. In some regions there is growing support for the nationalist anti-Russian Confederation for Independent Poland, which was conspicuous at the recent independence day celebrations.

Yet just to confuse the picture there is also a lot of weariness. According to the polls, 24 per cent of Solidarity members would welcome a suspension of the right to strike. Solidarity leaders have got this message and regard the strike weapon as a diminishing asset. But they are far from having full control, and find themselves giving token support to strikes they do not really like in order to retain credit for the moment when they may be called upon to avert a national breakdown.

This leaves only two coherent power structures in the country, the Church and the army. The Church cannot govern, and is anxious not to jeopardize its moral authority by becoming too openly involved in politics, but the word is being spread quietly through its hierarchy that it should be ready to assert its authority to the full if the nation is on the brink of catastrophe.

Meanwhile the army has been withdrawn from the countryside and sent into the towns to help cope with winter. It earned mixed reports in the countryside. On the one hand it did quite a lot to compensate for inefficiency and corruption in local administration by distributing stocks of coal and food. But it was spread too thinly to be really effective, and it sometimes interfered with private marketing by farmers.

In the towns it will be more concentrated, and thus better placed to cope with breakdowns in food or power supplies — or in law and order. But although army officers are usefully learning about local administration — a deliberate investment for possible emergencies — it is still difficult to imagine them taking over the entire crumbling machinery of local government.

At the recent Anglo-Polish Round Table near Warsaw, these problems were discussed very frankly. As a senior Pole summed up very neatly, the conference, which has been meeting fairly regularly over many years, has moved from confrontation through consultation to consolation. But some British members left with more than just sympathy, feeling that urgent thought must be given in the West to better ways of helping Poland.

Strikes are not in fact a major factor in the economic decline. A much more serious short-term problem is that many factories are not operating properly for lack of small components, spare parts or vital materials which have to be bought for hard currency, and this is not available because the banks have stopped lending. Relatively small amounts of hard currency injected into the right places would do a lot to get some wheels turning again.

So far no way has been found of ensuring that credits are used in this way. The Poles tend to divert them to other purposes, such as buying food or servicing their debts. The degree of Western control that would be necessary is unacceptable and anyway difficult to organize. Yet while the larger long-term problems are being discussed it would be worth looking more closely at short-term palliatives of this sort. Otherwise the chance of long-term reforms may be lost altogether.

Richard Davy

Henry Fairlie

Another cross for Reagan

For most of last week, there was a convention at the Capital Hilton, which is hardly unusual. Men greeted each other in the lobbies as jovially as those who go to conventions always do. But it was not the same as if the American Legion or the Teamsters had come to town. The men who slapped each other on the back were all wearing black bibs in front. Some even wore a pectoral cross.

Two hundred and seventy bishops of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States were holding their annual meeting here. There are some 50 million Catholics in this country, far the largest Catholic community in the world. From day to day, the bishops made news.

They denounced the present American government for supplying arms to El Salvador, and extended their criticisms to American policy in the rest of central America. They amplified their opposition to the nuclear arms race, in terms which seem to some to endorse unilateral disarmament. They adopted a strongly-phrased pastoral letter calling for a "just and humane national health policy".

The growing militancy of the hierarchy on social and political issues has been apparent for several years. It leads many Catholic laymen to talk of "the ever-widening gap between the individual Catholic and his cloistered and detached church leadership". The Democratic Party leadership lost touch with its blue-collar constituency. Is the Roman Catholic hierarchy also losing touch with its often identical flock?

A character in the novel, *The Vicar of Christ*, said of the American bishops: "Most of them are peasants, my dear chap, removed by only one generation, in most cases, from the bilges of the immigrant ships". The bishops who assembled here last week, although spruce in their suits, would take no offence at that description. The history of the Church here is bound up with the successive waves of immigration.

As first the Germans and the Irish, and then the Italians and the Slavs, were pumped on shore from the bilges, the church did much to absorb them. It helped to nationalize them in the new country, while holding them in the faith of the Old World. Its success in this stupendous task was acknowledged in 1908, when Pius X removed the American Church from the jurisdiction of the congregation *De propaganda fide*.

In spite of persistent discrimination against it, the Church had become a vital national institution, whose "flourishing youthfulness," wrote Leo XIII in 1902, "cheers Our heart and fills it with delight". Its flock then were mainly the immigrants crowded into cities. Its flock now are largely the blue-collar descendants of those immigrants. It is not surprising in these circumstances that its social gospel has usually been vigorously progressive.

The greatest single figure whom the church in America has produced, James Cardinal Gibbons, in writing to the Holy See in 1887, emphasized the proletarian character of most of those composing it. The bold pastoral letter on health care which was approved last week therefore stands in line with one of its strongest and most persistent tradition.

But the American church is now tending a third wave of immigrants. The flood of Spanish-speaking people who are pouring in from Puerto Rico, the Caribbean and Central America are as poor and even more predominantly Catholic than their predecessors. Even if it were for no other reason, the Church would be bound to be concerned with what goes on in their homelands, as Polish Americans are concerned about Poland.

When the papal delegate to the United States, Archbishop Jean Jadot, transferred Bishop Edward A. McCarthy in 1977, from Phoenix, Arizona, to Miami, Florida, it was because of the large Cuban community in Miami, and the Bishop's high reputation among the Hispanics in Arizona. The Catholic Church here cannot be understood unless it is realized how much of its growing strength now lies among the Spanish-speaking immigrants.

The main missionary work of the American Church overseas, moreover, is now carried out in the poor nations of Central America. The work is dangerous, especially in El Salvador. Lay workers and nuns, even an archbishop, have been murdered. This missionary work also has the specific endorsement of the encyclical, *Redemptor Hominis*, which John Paul II addressed to the problems of developing countries.

The attitude of the hierarchy on Central America is therefore as understandable as its attitude on social questions. But its increasingly strong opposition to America's participation in the nuclear arms race is altogether different. More than 50 archbishops and bishops here are now members of Pax Christi, the international peace organization. A year ago, only 29 belonged.

Only a few weeks ago, 29 bishops endorsed a statement of the inter-community centre for peace and justice, which said baldly: "The possession of nuclear weapons is wrong".

Archbishop Joseph L. Bernadin of Cincinnati, who reported last week from the bishops' committee on war and peace, called for a "positive theology of peace", and asked that the pastoral letter on the subject should take account of pacifist teaching.

So one could go on. The strength of this movement among the hierarchy may have many causes. Ultimately they can be traced back to one which is often overlooked. Forced into open opposition to the present tolerance of abortion, the bishops have found that this opposition makes ripples. Defending the sanctity of human life in all its stages, they are finding it more and more difficult to justify war.

Not only nuclear war, it must be emphasized, but even war itself. It would have been hard to find a bishop here last week who believes that there can now be a just war. It is this support of the right to life of the unborn child which is also driving the Church into its more outspoken attitude on social questions. Whatever one may say of the bishops' new militancy, there is no doubt that to them it is (theo)logically coherent.

"You can't support the right to life of an unborn child", said a Catholic politician in Maryland some time ago, "without wondering how strongly you support everyone's right to dignity and life. The abused child, the poor, the prisoners in death row". Here is the driving force behind the resolutions which the bishops passed last week. But will the workers in Amarillo give up their jobs in a weapons factory in support of their archbishop?

The bishops are leading but will the flock follow? And meanwhile, Reagan has the fundamentalists.

The strike weapon that Tebbit withheld

by Anthony Frodsham

Those looking for a hard line in industrial relations law have been disappointed by Norman Tebbit's plans for trade union reform. Members of the Engineering Employers' Federation, however, were not anxious to see a new act outlawing the closed shop and making collective agreements legally binding. And we welcome the Government's decision to continue its step-by-step approach.

But the proposals have one important omission: a lay-off clause which would help redress the balance between organized labour and employers.

Over the years unions have acquired the ability which they now see as their right — to cause extensive inconvenience to large sections of the community at little or no cost to themselves. One increasingly common way to do this is to withdraw a small number of people — such as computer operators — from critical functions. In this way a union's members with an interest in the outcome of a dispute can continue to report for work, thus maintaining their own pay and thereby, should they wish, finance a small number of striking colleagues.

For example, staff employees generally enjoy the right to be paid as long as they are available to perform their ordinary work — even if, because of industrial action, there is no work for them to do. The obligation to maintain the pay of those who are not on strike greatly weakens the employer's financial position and often forces him to terminate the strike on unfavourable terms. With the dice so loaded against him, the employer is faced with the dangerous choice of engaging in an expensive industrial dispute or of making an appeasing settlement which will soon cause difficulties elsewhere in his company.

The solution to this problem need not involve exposing unions or their leaders to legal penalties. Rather, it lies in establishing a fairer balance of strength between striking employees and their employers. This could be achieved by a simple Act enabling an employer whose business is badly disrupted by industrial action to lay off all his employees without pay, including those not on strike. Of course there could be appropriate safeguards to prevent abuse of this right.

> What is needed is a change in the law to allow employers during a strike to be relieved from having to pay employees for whom they cannot provide work

A parallel menace faces employers when the economy is paralysed by industrial action within a monopoly or substantial supplier of goods or essential services — such as gas, water, electricity and transport.

The harm of a major strike in the public sector is not just that it makes life intolerable for the general public, but also that it can ruin private employers. When such a strike occurs, an employer generally has to pay his employees while being unable to produce goods for sale. If he closes his business by giving notice to his employees, he will face heavy redundancy payments. He could try to persuade his employees to accept a variation of their contracts of employment which would reduce or suspend their pay, but that is clearly not easy to do.

What is needed is a change in the law to allow employers in such circumstances to be relieved from having to pay employees for whom they are unable to provide work. Again, there would need to be reasonable safeguards on the exercise of this right.

Both these remedies for establishing a fairer balance in the industrial relations system were put forward by the Engineering Employers' Federation when responding to the Green Paper on Trade Union Immunities. The knowledge that disruption within a company caused by industrial action by one section of employees could result in the suspension without pay of their workmates would greatly discourage irresponsible militancy.

Similarly, opposition from their own non-striking members should greatly reduce the power of union leaders to destroy national wealth by dislocating monopoly public undertakings. Admittedly such radical steps would need a new attitude towards the law of contract. Their practical benefit would be enormous in moderating hasty strike calls without creating a new class of trade union martyr.

The author is Director-General of the Engineering Employers' Federation.

THE TIMES DIARY

High cost of the V & A's closed shop

Two reasons for gloom, I hear at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Here we are almost at the end of November and Dr Roy Strong, the museum's director, has still not received notification of his knighthood. Dr Strong affects disinterest in such gongs but, given his reaction when Sir Michael Levey, director of the National Gallery, was knighted in January this year, his colleagues know better.

More important for the rest of us, I am told that there is a silly impasse over the shop being built in the new Cole building, an annex to the museum, which will have its main entrance in Exhibition Road. The building, named after Sir Henry Cole, first director of the V & A, will be connected to the main museum but otherwise is intended as a self-contained gallery of paintings, drawings, prints and photographs. The problem with the shop appears to stem from the fact that the V & A is a Government-owned museum rather than a trustee establishment. As a result, the installation of the shop, costing about £30,000, has been given the go-ahead by the Department of the Environment, but its staffing has been vetoed by the Department of Education and Science. So when the new building opens in March next year it will feature a brand-new shop, permanently closed.



Non-smokers like me have to make up their sin quota in other ways — and my preference is for drinking. It follows that about this time of the year I always get very interested in, not to mention familiar with, hangovers. I gather from Clement Freud's book on the subject that the English word is actually American but he also includes a number of international versions, some of which make the morning-after sound even worse:

France	*Gueule de bois*	Wooden throat
Denmark	*Tommermaend*	Carpenter
Sweden	*Baksmalla*	Kickback
Germany	*Katzenjammer*	Wailing of cats
Poland	*Kociokwik*	Wailing of kittens

I can add to this the Australian word "GGGrrrraaaaooo", which is translated as "Breath like a wallaby's armpit." Readers can do better, I am sure, so a bottle of the usual for the best description of a hangover in whatever language.

Farewell Jocelyn

Yesterday morning, Mr Jocelyn Stevens, deputy chairman and managing director of Express Newspapers, had a word with the woman who organizes the boardroom lunches at the *Daily Express*. "There's a farewell party tonight", he said, "about 100 people". As he was leaving she asked: "Who's it for?" "Me," said Stevens, whereupon the woman burst into tears.

Stevens is popular with the workforce. His sacking may or may not improve the *Express's* sagging fortunes (see story on page 1) but in the watering holes of Fleet Street the more immediate question is how it will affect the flickering warfare that has recently broken out between the *Daily Mail* and the *Express* who are, of course, joint proprietors of *The Standard*.

That partnership led to an official truce between the two papers, long habituated to sniping at each other. But for some reason as yet unfathomed by Fleet Street Kremlinologists new bickering broke out at the beginning of this month.

On November 9 the *Mail* carried an item alleging that Lord (Victor) Matthews, head of Trafalgar House, had demanded the return of the company car originally awarded to Sir Max Aitken when his company took over Beaverbrook Newspapers in 1977.

Then on November 12 the *Express* published an acidic full-page review of *Mail* diarist Nigel Dempster's biography of Princess Margaret — by Stevens himself. Dempster told me yesterday he is issuing writs and seeking "punitive damages".

On the same day, the William Hickey column in the *Express* published an article "revealing" that Lord Rothermere's daughter, Geraldine, was pregnant when she married Lord Ogilvy in May. Rothermere is, of course, chairman and chief executive of Associated Newspapers, owners of the *Daily Mail*.

To Rothermere these must have seemed massive reprisals for the initial Dempster paragraph, and hostilities seem to have been resumed on all fronts.

Yesterday the *Mail's* diary described the *Express* as a "tawdry bingo sheet" and described its new William Hickey as "boring the few remaining readers with 11 turgid paragraphs on a fallacious story . . .". Part of Fleet Street's decline may have to do with this predilection for writing about itself (which I am now doing, so I had better stop).



Bearable humour

For all his recent ill-health, President Brezhnev, now in West Germany, has not lost his heavy Russian humour. The Soviet leader, 74, who left Moscow in snow, evidently found Bonn's mild autumn weather to his liking and turned up at the Chancellery bareheaded and without a coat. As he stepped out of his Mercedes he found 62-year-old Helmut Schmidt, his host, in a coat and his famous north German yachting cap.

"What", said Mr Brezhnev, "I'm older than you and I'm not wearing a coat." Whereupon the Chancellor promptly took off his coat and cap as the band struck up with the national hymn.

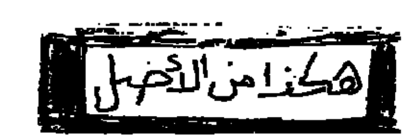
Krays' return

Robert Duvall, the American star of *True Confessions*, is to collaborate with Roger Daltry, lead singer of The Who and star of *McVicar*, in a film on the life of the infamous East End twins, Reggie and Ronnie Kray. Duvall says he is fascinated by "brutal, competitive people" like the Krays and is apparently willing to spend up to six months in Soho and east London "to get the accent right".

He wants to play Ronnie, and would like Reggie to be played by Bob Hoskins, who starred as Ronnie Kray in a stage musical called *England, England* which ran in London for six weeks. Most recently, Hoskins played a tough cockney villain in *The Long Good Friday*, opposite Helen Mirren. Daltry, who will co-produce the film, is already studying a provisional script.

The Krays, now 48, both got life in March 1969 for gangland killings and sundry other pastimes.

Peter Watson





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MR HESELTINE'S HALF MEASURE

It is clear by now that the Government cannot proceed with the Local Government Finance Bill in its present form. It has aroused too much opposition on Mr Heseltine's side of the House, let alone the other. The bill's plan for a local referendum whenever a council wishes to levy a supplementary rate are objectionable on constitutional and practical grounds and will have to be dropped. The question that the Government must consider now is whether to find a new warhead for the bill, or abandon it and prepare a better calculated offensive for a later date.

In a Commons debate earlier this month Mr Heseltine meditated openly about possible alternative ways of preventing obstinate overspenders from squeezing their ratepayers unrestrained. He suggested that a council could be required to seek immediate re-election if it sought a supplementary rate on top of an initial rate confined by a ceiling set by the Government. This would avoid the undesirable constitutional precedent of a binding referendum on a routine issue, but in terms of real local accountability it would hardly be an improvement. Policy-making on a local or national scale becomes impossible if the whole electorate has to be ingratiated every year. The most prudent councils would be tempted to levy the initial rate right up to the limit, for fear of being forced into an election by unforeseen circumstances.

Mr Heseltine's other thoughts sounded hardly more attractive. He proposed that the right to levy a supplementary rate might be made conditional on Parliamentary approval in each case. It is easy to envisage how much Westminster time would be wasted by such a procedure, and how little serious scrutiny the actual circumstances of each case would receive. His proposal simply to abolish supplementary rates, requiring overspending councils to borrow their way through the year, would have an immediate effect on public sector borrowing which a levy on ratepayers does not.

The truth is that there is no satisfactory way of achieving the purpose of the Bill. Obliging individual councils to raise no more in rates than the Government thinks they ought contradicts local accountability. Anyway, the signs are plain in London, at least, that councillors are rediscovering a healthy respect for the ratepayer's feelings. In terms of national housekeeping the excess expenditure the Bill is aimed at is not large. If it is aimed at the extravagance of only a few councils, as the Minister maintains, its effect on overall public expenditure will scarcely be dramatic; and since the money spent is money raised in tax it would have no direct inflationary impact.

The Government is already committed to yet another Bill on rating after this one. It cannot be wise now to launch so dubious a measure in so complex an area for such limited gains for one season only. Far better to retire gracefully and throw the Government's energies into the fully-considered radical reform of local finance which is now so plainly needed.

The principles on which such a reform should be based are that localrevenue should come far closer to paying for local services, and that the local electorate should correspond more closely with the list of those liable for local taxation. The defects of domestic rating from both points of view can be overstated. The level of rates in an area affects the pockets of far more than those who pay them directly. The case for a property tax of some kind in Britain is strong, and no tax is better fitted for local operation. Local sales tax, whose yield would be too slight by itself, might be used to supplement a reformed rating system. The old question of local income tax must be examined again, though heavier taxes on earnings is a move in the wrong direction.

Alternatively councils will have to shed responsibilities to bring their discretionary spending closer to what their resources can sustain. Teachers' salaries, which are fixed nationally but account for a quarter of all rate fund expenditure, are an obvious possibility. The Layfield report in 1976 rejected this course because it might eventually impair a real and significant local discretion over education. No doubt the risk exists, but now that local discretion in all sectors is threatened with rapid decline to a notional level, it may be necessary to sacrifice one aspect of it in order to secure the rest.

THE FAHD PLAN AT FEZ

Why is it that the goals scored, in the endless diplomatic football match between the Arabs and Israel, are almost invariably own goals? Both sides seem set to provide us with choice examples this week, each converting what might have been a significant success into something very like a disaster.

The decision of four West European countries to commit troops to the proposed multinational peacekeeping force in Sinai may be considered symbolic, in terms of the number of men involved, but what it symbolizes is important, namely the willingness of the Western world in general, rather than just the United States, to endorse and underwrite the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. That is something which Israel should value, irrespective of the views of the governments concerned on the ultimate settlement of the wider Middle East conflict. Moreover, the agreement of the four governments to participate is the fruit of a considerable diplomatic effort on the part of the United States. If the Israeli government now decides to veto European participation (as Mr Shamir hinted yesterday that it will), it will hardly improve its already shaky standing with the Reagan administration.

The Arab opponents of the Camp David process, however, seem to be about to put the ball into their own net with even more devastating effect. Ever since 1978 they have been explaining to their friends in the West that they were not against peace as such, but only against this particular peace because it isolated Egypt from the rest of the world and imposed unacceptable conditions on the Palestinians. A true, comprehensive peace, they said, in which the Palestinians could play their part through their only legitimate representative, the PLO, would be quite a different matter. Good, said their friends, but if you want us to convince the United States government of that (which we must do if we are to have any hope of getting Israel to accept it), you cannot confine yourselves to rejecting Camp David: you must put forward a positive, alternative proposal.

This autumn it seemed that that was at last about to happen. Prince Fahd produced his eight points — essentially a recapitulation of Arab demands endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, *but including*, as point seven, the crucial principle that "all states in the region should be able to live in peace". Did that include Israel? Yes, said Prince Saud in substance three weeks ago, provided that it also includes the independent Palestinian state mentioned in point six.

The Saudi leaders at that time seemed confident that they could get the eight points endorsed by the Arab summit conference which opens today in Fez, and go on from there to try and set up a new framework of negotiations through the UN. This confidence was based mainly on the enthusiastic support of the PLO chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat, who according to some was actually a co-author of the "Fahd plan". Imagine therefore the chagrin of Prince Saud when, at the preparatory meeting of Arab foreign ministers in Fez on Sunday night, the PLO representative, Mr Faruq Qaddumi, came out firmly against the plan.

The Palestinians continue to insist that recognition of Israel is their "only card", which they cannot afford to give away for nothing. Yet the Fahd plan was designed precisely to be conditional: it would allow Israel to live in peace if, and only if, Israel is willing to accept withdrawal to the 1967 borders and the setting up of an independent Palestinian state. Of course Israel does not accept those conditions. Far from it. But if she is not even offered a peaceful existence in exchange, how can anyone ever *hope to change her mind?* Obviously there are people in Beirut, and in Damascus and Baghdad, who do not really want that change. But should they not spare a thought for the families in the West Bank whose houses are being blown up, for the students whose universities have been closed, for the young men and women forced to emigrate for lack of skilled jobs in their own country, for the farmers deprived of land and water by Israeli settlers? Couldn't they, just for once, give peace a chance?

FREE VOTE FOR CROSBY

The judgment to be exercised by voters at a by-election is very different from that at a general election. Then they have to decide which party they would prefer to form the government for the next five years. It is true that over the past thirty years an increasing proportion of the electorate has been using even general elections as occasions for protests of one kind or another. But for most voters every other consideration is subordinate to the central question of who is to govern Britain.

At a by-election, however, other factors predominate. The existence of a government is not at stake. Voters are free to consider which party ought to have its representation strengthened in the House of Commons, and which candidate would be most likely to make a parliamentary contribution of distinction. On those grounds the case for *supporting Mrs* Shirley Williams at Crosby tomorrow is a strong one. The voters do not have to decide whether they would like a Social Democratic government, but whether they would like an extra Social Democrat in the House of Commons. Indeed, they have to decide whether there should be for the first time a Social Democratic member of Parliament elected as such.

Equally, the voters do not have to determine tomorrow whether Mrs Williams would make a good Prime Minister or even whether she would be the best leader of her party, rather whether she has more to contribute to Parliament than the other candidates at Crosby. The distinction is particularly important in this instance because Mrs Williams's capacities are considerable but uneven. Few politicians today are her equal at charming an audience, whether at a public meeting, on television or in person on the doorstep. She has a remarkable eloquence that depends partly on her facility with words and partly on her ability to convey both earnestness and strength of feeling. *She is not humorous* or witty, but she does seem to understand the anxieties and aspirations of most of those to whom she speaks. She is thoughtful without being decisive.

These are not qualities that would be likely to make her an effective party leader. Her judgment is not so good as her intentions. She lacks the necessary power of decision and would tend to shrink from the unpopular acts that are required of someone who is to lead any party with success, especially a party that is embarked on such a daring enterprise as the Social Democrats. If he is available — which means if he has been returned to the House of Commons by the time the parliamentary leader is elected — Mr Roy Jenkins would bring more political weight and authority to the role. It is well known that he would be the choice of the party's MPs.

But Mrs Williams nonetheless has a great deal to contribute to the party and to Parliament. It is hard to think of any other politician today who can inspire the warmth and trust that she does. Her party will be the stronger and political life in this country will be healthier if she is once again in the House of Commons — good enough reasons for the voters of Crosby to send her there tomorrow.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Violence as pointer to racial impasse

From Professor Kenneth Kirkwood

Sir, Professor John Hutchinson's letter, to which you give prominence today (November 21) under the above heading, surely presents a highly tendentious interpretation and dangerously misleading commentary upon Henry Fairlie's article (November 18) reporting his mugging in "pleasant midtown" Washington DC, and his subsequent reflections.

Crimes of violence can affect emotions and precipitate a change in attitude towards another group: many cases have been recorded, ranging from inter-racial murders to inter-racial assaults of a minor kind. But individuals of different racial background have been victims as well as assailants.

It is wholly absurd even to suggest that it is a one-way process involving "black" aggressors and non-black sufferers. And it is heartening to observe how many victims of violence firmly reject any "racial" or ethnic cause — including national, sectarian, cultural etc. Despite Professor Hutchinson's opening sentence the "brains" of such victims have remained admirably clear, their humane understanding and compassion have triumphed.

So far as Britain is concerned, I find statements of the following kind unnecessarily violent and unwarrantably alarmist: (1) "perhaps most critical of all, the ignoring of the signalled likelihood of an alliance between black *anger, the jugular strike, the* terrorist capacity and the revolutionary purpose"; (2) "We have a duty to entertain publicly and systematically the possibility that the problem of the inner-city black . . . is insoluble by means customary to the free society"; (3) "there is evidently no chance that either of the two major 'solutions' proposed — assisted remigration or ethnic relief, each on historic scale — will be applied".

There are indeed very real and serious urban problems. These have been emphasized publicly as well as privately for decades by a wide range of academic workers as well as by those engaged directly in public affairs.

Sustained, self-critical attention has long been given not only to responsible research and enquiry, but also to close consideration of carefully defined constructive remedies, large-scale and small-scale. No vast and vague "solutions" have been agreed or imposed, nor is such agreement or imposition likely in our still free society.

I am persuaded, not least by colleagues of the stature of the late G. D. H. Cole and Eric Stokes, that there are distinctive or peculiar British ways of getting around, albeit slowly, to perceiving and acting constructively in our particular democracy. I believe that this is now occurring in the fields of education, policing, housing, representation and the like, though formidable problems, not least in employment, remain.

Yours truly,
KENNETH KIRKWOOD,
Rhodes Professor of Race Relations,
St. Antony's College,
Oxford.
November 21.

University cuts

From Professor T. P. Wiseman

Sir, Amid the controversy over the university cuts it seems to be taken for granted that higher education is defensible only in so far as it offers vocational training, and the rest is frivolous.

This morning, for instance (November 18) the two interviews BBC Radio offered on the day of the AUT (Association of University Teachers) lobby of Parliament were with a representative of Conservative students, who referred contemptuously to "Mickey Mouse" courses (unspecified, but evidently to be distinguished from vocational ones), and the Vice-Chancellor of Bristol University, whose defence of the system was that three quarters of university graduates are trained for something specific; "the other quarter", he said airily, "go into journalism or politics".

All those who teach or study the humanities are familiar with the uncomprehending question, "What's the good of it?", but it is depressing to find the incomprehension so widespread, even in the universities themselves. What the *study of languages, history* and literature does, when rigorously taught at university level, is to train the student in the collection and evaluation of evidence, to teach him to understand the civilization in which he lives, to give him an insight into societies and value-systems alien to his own, and to provide a short cut towards that experience of the multiplicity of human affairs without which we are condemned to dogma and confrontation.

Even — or especially — in these grim times, an education system that aims at producing citizens who are rational, sceptical, tolerant and humane does not deserve to be dismissed as frivolous. And at a practical level adaptability and an open mind are likely to be at least as employable in a changing world as "vocational" skills which may be obsolete within a decade.

Of course we need more and better engineers; but it is not *only* for them that the universities must be defended.

Yours faithfully,
T. P. WISEMAN,
University of Exeter,
Department of Classics,
Queen's Building,
The Queen's Drive,
Exeter.
November 18.

British budget priorities in the EEC

From Mr Geoff Harris

Sir, Britain has frequently faced the charge of missing the bus with regard to political developments in Europe, but your leader of November 21 suggests that it is possible to miss the bus even when, as President in office of Council, we are in the driver's seat.

You refer to the three main topics at the forthcoming European Council meetings as budget contributions, agricultural reform and the development of non-agricultural policies. This list *reflects the narrow obsessions of* part of the British political establishment rather than the real concerns of the Community, which are two-fold. Firstly, what effective measures can be undertaken to combat rising unemployment and regional inequality which threaten so much damage to the political fabric of democracy in western Europe and could imperil the whole process of European integration? Secondly, what contribution can Europe make to peace in Europe itself, and in the Middle East, and at global level through the North-South dialogue?

It is in this context that the figures in the budget must be analysed. In May 1980 a deal was made. It was an inadequate deal from all points of view, primarily because it dealt with the effects rather than the causes of the EEC's unbalanced budget. Since then, however, massive reductions (over 1bn European currency units) in CAP expenditure have taken place and it has become clear that Britain's rebate was calculated on an over-estimate of its *likely* contributions. This context provides everyone with the opportunity to undertake the review of the budget in a calmer manner, without the threat of expenditure outstripping revenue even though this remains one of the provisions for reform.

Your list of issues for the summit therefore looks at the problem from precisely the wrong direction. Britain has been remarkably unresponsive to proposals to expand expenditure on regional, social and industrial policies which would benefit her most and would help to reduce her net budget contributions. The French Socialist Government's proposals to revive the Community have this as its centrepiece. Moreover Britain has not itself apparently made any proposals for CAP reform but has helped undermine support for the Commission's package which contains two vital elements, namely alignment of EEC and world prices, and taxes on surplus produce.

A lasting solution to the British budget problem must be a solution which fits in with the interests and the needs of the Community as a whole and represents a political advance for all member states and institutions. In one sense at least you are right: a lot more is at stake than British *amour propre*. The failure of British political leaders to connect our genuine budget problem with our more general political interest in a more effective Community working for peace and full employment could prove an expensive political error. Most of the governments of the Community's member states which include Socialists and Social Democrats (apart from the UK and Luxembourg) are working on these lines. It will be a great pity if, with such a high level of unemployment and such a strong interest in peace and international cooperation, Britain fails to make its own political contribution and in doing so *hinders its chance of getting a* genuine and lasting reform of the Community Budget and of developing a European Community more in line with the needs of all its citizens.

Yours etc,
GEOFF HARRIS,
Socialist Group Secretariat,
97 rue Belliard,
1040 Brussels.
November 23.

National Insurance

From the Director of the Low Pay Unit

Sir, Your leading article (November 19) attributes much of the increase in taxation since 1979 to the rise in National Insurance contributions. You suggest that the Government should "recognize National Insurance contributions for what they are — disguised taxation — and merge the contribution system".

Such a proposal has much to commend it. The contributions are now a major source of revenue, raising 60 per cent as much as income tax, and more than VAT. Yet taxpayers may feel they are getting poor value for money.

While the contributions to the National Insurance scheme have increased, the benefits which they are supposed to finance have been cut. Moreover, the finance of the scheme is unacceptably regressive. Taking income tax and contributions together, the combined marginal tax rate for those earning as little as £27 a week is now 38p in the pound — higher than that faced by someone earning £240 a week, or nine times as much.

The scheme affects part-time workers particularly harshly, since contributions become payable, by both employer and workers, on *all earnings* once those earnings exceed £27. Part-timers receiving a small pay rise which takes them beyond the threshold may find themselves worse off as a result. Meanwhile employers have a real incentive to reduce wage rates or hours (or both) to ensure that the threshold is not breached. We are aware of cases in which employers have replaced full-timers with part-timers to reduce their contributions.

There are many employees who are paying substantial amounts into the National Insurance scheme but whose contribution record is never sufficient to entitle them to claim any benefit from that scheme should they find themselves in need.

For all these reasons, fundamental reform of the scheme is now urgent. Employees' contributions should be abolished as a separate and regressive tax, and the revenue collected through the income tax system. Eligibility to benefits should be related to need (arising from unemployment, sickness or old age) and residence, rather than to contributions.

The employers' contributions, which are a serious burden for many small firms, should be replaced with a separate "social security payroll tax" related not to the earnings of individual workers but to the total wage bill, with appropriate exemptions and reduced rates for small firms, and with provision for companies to reclaim that proportion of the tax paid on labour costs associated with goods for export.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS POND,
Low Pay Unit,
9 Poland Street, W1.

Civil Service reforms

From Mr Peter Jay

Sir, Mr Peter Kellner (November 19), recklessly returning to the scene of his own embarrassment, complains that I have accused him of "no specific factual error" in his deplorable article (November 13) on the demise of the Civil Service Department. Since my principal criticisms were of errors "merely" of judgment, analysis, logic, ethics and taste and since his article contained almost no strictly factual non-emotive assertions, beyond commonplace banalities, I am inclined to ask, "So what?"

As to the accuracy of my recollection of what Lord Fulton told me on the day of the publication of his report in 1968, namely that the recommendation for the creation of the CSD was included on the instructions of the then Prime Minister, I can only repeat that my memory is absolutely clear, indeed vivid. I respect, of course, the sincerity of Lord Fulton's non-recollection of the event (letter of November 17)

As the man of the hour speaking to a mere reporter he would hardly be likely to have been as unforgettably impressed by the exchange as I was. For such an instruction to have been explicitly passed on to the members of a supposedly independent inquiry is so improbable that Lord Crowther-Hunt's unawareness (letter, November 18) of the fact is neither surprising nor significant, though his judgment that his former paperback co-author, Mr Kellner, has misdiagnosed the failure of the CSD comes from an impressive authority.

Yours, etc,
PETER JAY,
Garrick Club, WC2.

Premenstrual tension

From Dr G. I. M. Swyer

Sir, The extraordinary publicity lavished upon premenstrual tension by all forms of news media during the past two weeks as a result of the two trials in which this condition was advanced as an extenuation, if not an excuse for serious crimes, and the two letters from your correspondents published today (November 19) prompt me to add my comments.

During these two weeks Women's Health Concern has had something approaching two thousand inquiries, by letter and by personal call, on this subject, reflecting widespread dissatisfaction with the largely negative attitude, extending to frank disbelief, taken by many of my medical colleagues to what is undoubtedly a common and disturbing condition. Though, as my very old friend Dr Raymond Greene points out, the precise cause of premenstrual symptoms is unknown, effective treatments (not exclusively progesterone, which doesn't always work) can be used in the great majority of cases and so there is little justification for the large numbers of improperly treated or untreated women sufferers.

No greater disservice could be done to those who experience serious premenstrual symptoms *than for its reality to be rejected* because it has achieved the notoriety of being the female criminal's perfect excuse. It is pertinent to point out that, in the case of one of the two recent defendants, though the plea may have led to mitigation of sentence, it was rejected as a defence by the jury who found her guilty of the charges. In both cases the evidence showed constructive actions by the defendants leading up to the offences committed and the idea that under the influence of premenstrual tension these sufferers behaved in a manner wholly outside their control, thereby providing justification, is simply untenable.

Sympathy for women experiencing premenstrual symptoms, their proper treatment by doctors, more research by workers such as Professor Taylor and Dr Brush at St Thomas's Hospital — all these are much to be desired. They will not be achieved if premenstrual tension becomes accepted as an excuse for serious female crime by the law because it will be rejected by the public.

Yours faithfully,
G. I. M. SWYER, Chairman,
Women's Health Concern,
16 Seymour Street, W1.
November 19.

Social Democrats and education

From Mr M. St J. Parker

Sir, Michael McCrum's plea (feature November 18) for clarification of SDP policy on education has already been answered, directly or indirectly, by Mr Tyrrell Burgess (letter, November 19) and Dr John Rae (November 21). No doubt there is more enlightenment on the way; given the present state of the SDP, you may expect to hear from a regular plethora of spokesmen, advisers, and experts *on education, especially while the* sound of the Crosby by-election is still dinning in our ears.

Indeed, the noises made by the new party at the moment sometimes give one the uneasy feeling that the whole enterprise is run by, and staged for the benefit of, a collection of schoolmasters and schoolmistresses.

Is it, therefore, completely naive and absurd of this particular schoolmaster to express a hope that the SDP will, in fact, resist the temptation to produce a massively detailed education policy, full of unrealizable schemes and unfulfilled promises; that they will recognize that schools reflect society's values rather than creating them, and will accordingly refrain from manipulating the education system for purposes of social engineering; and that they will pay due heed to that part of our liberal tradition which lays stress on the dangers inherent in a situation where the State exercises monopoly control over the schools?

In short, dare one ask the SDP and its partners to quit kicking the educational football?

Even as I ask the question, I am afraid I know the answer: politicians will always think they know best. But what a surge of support there would be for a party that dared to acknowledge its limitations!

Yours faithfully,
M. St J. PARKER,
Headmaster,
Abingdon School,
Abingdon,
Oxfordshire.
November 23.

Prison complaints

From Mr David Evans

Sir, In his letter to you (November 14) Mr Martin Wright exhorts that safeguards for inmates must be improved by abolishing the rule by which a prisoner may be punished for a complaint against an officer if it is considered "false and malicious". He goes on to say, "Prison officers *should follow* the Police Federation in accepting that an open complaints procedure protects them against allegations of whitewash".

For about a year prison officers have refused to participate in internal inquiries, insisting that any allegation made by an inmate be referred to the police for investigation. It is then a question of the Police Federation following the Prison Officers' Association. That, however, is not the most important point. At the recent summer school held by the Howard League for Penal Reform representatives of the Prison Officers' Association informed those present of the policy of the association.

I was therefore surprised to read that Mr Wright was encouraging prison officers to initiate a procedure that has been practised by them for some time.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID EVANS, Assistant Secretary,
Prison Officers' Association,
245 Church Street,
Edmonton, N9.

Alcoholics Anonymous

From Mr Ronald Forbes

Sir, On October 10 you carried a PA story about Alcoholics Anonymous being granted a licence for the bar at their convention in Brighton. I was most concerned about the quotation attributed by the Brighton Council's solicitor that the organizer of the AA convention said ". . .some members are sufficiently rehabilitated to be able to drink in moderation".

This is inaccurate and I should like to make it very clear to your readers that members of Alcoholics Anonymous do not drink at all. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking and the organizers of the convention did not make any such statement. The bar licence was for the friends and relations of AA *members attending the annual* convention.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD FORBES,
Hon. Executive Director,
Alfawap Trust Fund Limited,
364 High Road,
Willesden, NW10.

Look you!

From Mr P. R. Oliver

Sir, Has not your columnwallah Trevor Fishlock, writing in your "Holidays in India" Special Report of November 14, made a slight *gurrburr* of his lingos? "Shuftis" may have been imported into Hindoosthan by latter-day Mulvaneys, but surely they were more properly (?) taken at pyramids, bints and other Egyptian objets d'art? Sahibs, boxwallahs and the like, pukka or otherwise, took "dekkos" or, more correctly, "dekhos".

Yours, one-time thrice-born,
P. R. OLIVER,
Bridge Cottage,
Little Petherick,
Wadebridge,
Cornwall.
November 14.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 24: Mr W. R. Tomkys was received in audience by The Queen this morning and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Bahrain.

Mrs Tomkys had the honour of being received by The Queen.

His Excellency Monsieur Abdel Khader Kamara was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to The Queen: Monsieur Mahomed Ould Kimafer (Counsellor).

Sir Michael Palliser (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

The Queen received the Bishop of Truro (the Right Rev Peter Mumford) who was introduced into Her Majesty's presence by The Right Hon William Whitelaw, MP (Secretary of State for the Home Department) and did Homage upon his appointment.

The Secretary of State for the Home Department administered the Oath.

The Bishop of Bath and Wells (Clerk of the Closet) and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

The Queen held a Council at 12.40 o'clock this afternoon.

There were present: the Right Hon Francis Pym, MP (Lord President), the Right Hon George Younger, MP (Secretary of State for Scotland), the Right Hon Sir Michael Havers, MP (Attorney General) and the Right Hon Thomas King, MP (Minister of State, Department of the Environment).

Sir Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon Francis Pym, MP had an audience of Her Majesty before the Council.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh held an Evening Reception at Buckingham Palace for the Diplomatic Corps at which The Prince of Wales and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present.

The String Orchestra of the Scots Guards played selections of music during the evening.

Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, The Queen's Body-guard of the Yeomen of the Guard a dismounted detachment of the Household Cavalry were on duty.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning laid the Foundation Stone of the new building at Stoke Mandeville Hospital (Senior Nursing Officer, Miss E. M. V. Denny) and was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire (Major J. D. Young).

This afternoon His Royal Highness, having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Berkshire (Colonel the Hon Gordon Palmer), opened and toured the new Skillcentre at Cippenham, Slough.

Mr Richard Davies was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, presided at a meeting of the Prince's Council at 10 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1, and subsequently gave a luncheon party for members of the Council at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, President, this afternoon chaired a meeting of the Prince's Trust at Buckingham Palace.

Mrs John Dugdale has succeeded Lady Susan Hussey as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today honoured the Prime Warden (Mr Denis Martin-Jenkins) and members of the Court of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights with her presence at luncheon at Ironmongers' Hall.

The Lady Angela Oswald and Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 24: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment) was present today at a luncheon given by the Officers of the Regiment at Merchant Taylors' Hall.

The Hon Mrs Wills and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
November 24: The Duke of Kent today undertook industrial visits in Staffordshire.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Captain Miles Kemp.

The Duchess of Kent, Honorary Colonel of The Yorkshire Volunteers, today received Lieutenant-Colonel Christopher Tattersall on his assuming command of the 3rd Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Wilson on his relinquishing the appointment.

The Countess of Rosse gave birth to a son at Ballinasloe on November 9, 1981.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Marquess of Exeter will take place in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London, at noon on Wednesday, December 16, 1981. Apply for tickets to the secretary, National Westminster Bank Ltd, 41 Lothbury, London EC2 2PB.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. E. O. Russell and Caroline Lady Brougham and Vaux
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place on December 9 at Newbury Register Office between Rupert Edward Odo, younger son of Mr and Mrs D. H. G. Russell, of Cambridge Street, London, SW1, and Caroline Lady Brougham and Vaux, of Yew Tree Cottage, North Heath, Chieveley. A service of blessing will be held afterwards in London. A reception will be held in the New Year.

Mr N. Wheeler-Robinson and Miss R. Verney
The forthcoming marriage is announced between Nicholas, son of Dr Bernard Wheeler Robinson and the late Mrs Alice Wheeler Robinson, and Rachel, daughter of the Bishop of Repton and the late Mrs Scilla Verney.

Mr T. B. Heppel and Miss P. A. Henriques
The engagement is announced between Toby, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. P. Heppel, of Barns Place, Nether Winchendon, Buckinghamshire, and Patricia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Q. Henriques, of Purdis Hall, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Mr M. R. Bowes and Miss C. F. Norton
The engagement is announced between Malcolm Roy, son of Mr and Mrs Raymond L. Bowes, of Martin Hill Farm, Haxby, York, and Catherine Fay, daughter of Mr and Mrs Albert Norton, of Meadow Court, Moor Lane, Haxby, York.

Mr M. C. Waller-Bridge and Miss J. M. Clerke
The engagement is announced between Michael, only son of the late Mr Cyprian Waller-Bridge and of Mrs Geoffrey Hamber, of 31 Chelsea Square, London, SW3, and Teresa, younger daughter of Sir John Clerke, Bt, of Corsham, Wiltshire, and Lady Clerke, of Cape Town, South Africa.

Mr M. H. Bartholomew and Miss L. D. Reddaway
The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Robert Bartholomew, of Pulton, New York, and Lucy, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman Reddaway, of 51 Carlton Hill, London NW8.

Dr D. M. Cooper and Miss K. A. Beale
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Edward H. Cooper, of Cleveland, Chislehurst, Kent, and Karen-Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Maurice R. Beale, of The Birches, Shawford, Winchester.

Mr J. N. Dixey and Miss L. D. Brown
The engagement is announced between James Neville, third son of Mr and Mrs Paul Dixey, of Little Easton, Dunmow, Essex, and Lindsey Diana, second daughter of Mrs Barbara Brown, of Dickens Lane, Poynton, Cheshire.

Mr M. C. Lofts and Miss J. P. Pearce
The engagement is announced between Malcolm, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Lofts, of Cowes, Isle of Wight, and Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Pearce, of New Malden, Surrey.

Sir Eric Yarrow and Mrs J. Botting
The engagement is announced between Sir Eric Yarrow, MBE, DL, of Kilmacolm, Renfrewshire, and Mrs Joan Botting, (née Masters), of North Chailey, Sussex.

Mr J. C. R. Hudson and Miss H. A. Cartwright
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Charles Richard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. T. E. Hudson, of Wimbledon, London, SW20, and Hilary Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. H. Cartwright, of Llandudno, Gwynedd.

Mr M. Poynter and Miss C. Deal
The engagement is announced between Malcolm, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Poynter, of Red Sails, Seaview, Isle of Wight, and Carolyn, only daughter of Mr E. R. F. Deal, of Halfpenny Cottage, Brent Knoll, Somerset, and Mrs E. Deal, of Eastleze, Winscombe, Avon.

Mr A. N. R. Hamilton and Miss L. L. Goode
The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of the late Mr R. B. Hamilton, and of Mrs M. W. I. Hamilton, of Bramcote, Nottingham, and Isobel, daughter of the late Mr R. E. A. Goode, and of Mrs J. E. Goode, of Wollaton, Nottingham.

Mr D. Sudjic and Miss S. W. Goodden
The engagement is announced between Deyan, youngest son of Seja and Milivoj Sudjic, of Highgate, London, and Susanna, eldest daughter of the late Wyndham Goodden and of Josephine Goodden, of Tremayne, St Martin, Helston, Cornwall.

Birthdays today



Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, who is 66.

Lord Devlin, 76; Sir Cosmo Haskard, 65; Professor A. M. Honeyman, 74; Miss Daisy Hyams, 69; Mr Dickie Jeeps, 50; Mr Wilhelm Kempff, 86; Mr Tony Neary, 33; Major-General Sir Peter St Clair-Ford, 76; Mr R. Seifert, 61; Dr Robert Shakleton, 61; Sir John Summerson, 77; Lord Tweedsmuir, 70; Mr Peter Wright, 55.

Dinners

Institute of Jewish Affairs
A dinner to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Institute of Jewish Affairs was held at Painter-Stainers' Hall last night. Sir Sigmund and Lady Sternberg were the hosts and Lord Goodman, CH, was in the chair. Mr Osama El-Baz, Chef de Cabinet to Mr Hosni Murabak, President of Egypt, and Mr Edgar M. Bronfman, President of the World Jewish Congress, were the guest speakers. The Chief Rabbi, Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, and Lord Lever of Manchester also spoke.

London House for Overseas Graduates
The annual dinner for Arts Faculty residents of the London House for Overseas Graduates was held last night in London House. The chairman of the governors, Lord Seebohm, presided and among the guests were the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, Mr G. V. Warnock, and the Director of the Institute of Education, London University, Dr W. Taylor.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Lord Cranbrook to be a trustee of the Natural History Museum, in succession to Sir Hugh Elliott.

Luncheons

Shipwrights' Company
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was the guest of honour at a luncheon given by the Shipwrights' Company at Ironmongers' Hall yesterday and was received by the Lord Mayor. The Prime Warden, Mr D. F. Martin-Jenkins, presided, assisted by the Wardens, Mr D. S. Clarabut, Sir Charles Alexander, Mr J. E. Neary and Mr Alderman R. C. L. Charvet. Others present included:
The Earl of Inchcape, Viscount Runciman of Doxford, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, Lord Inverforth, Sir Eric Yarrow, Sir Victor Shepheard, Sir Iain Stewart, Sir Charles Trinder, Sir Leslie Bowes, Sir John Fisher and Mr D. B. Kimber, and their ladies.

HM Government
Lord Trefgarne was host yesterday at a luncheon at 1 Carlton Gardens given in honour of Dr Paez Pumar, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Venezuela.

United Kingdom South Africa Trade Association
The United Kingdom South Africa Trade Association held its sixteenth annual council luncheon at the Café Royal yesterday. The guest of honour was the Ambassador of South Africa. The guest speaker was Sir Campbell Fraser, chairman of Dunlop Holdings Ltd.

Church news

The Ven Kenneth Albert Newing, Archdeacon of Plymouth, Rector of Plympton St Maurice and Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral, has been appointed Bishop Suffragan of Plymouth in succession to the Right Rev Richard Fox Cartwright, who will be resigning the see on December 31.

ALL SEATS SOLD

Action Research for the Crippled Child regrets that all seats for "With Great Pleasure", a recital at St James's Palace on Wednesday, December 2 have been sold.

Requiem Eucharist

The Right Rev C. Winter
The Archbishop of Canterbury was represented by the Right Rev Ross Hook at the funeral service for the Right Rev Colin Winter held on Monday at St Savour's, Cobbold Road, London W12.

The Rev John Wheeler officiated, assisted by the Rev Tom Winter (brother) and the Ven Roger Key (Archdeacon of South Namibia). The Bishop of Kensington (also representing the Bishop of London) pronounced the blessing. The lessons were read by Miss Joy Wheeler and Mr Noel Horner. Mr David de Beer, Pastor Zephania Kameeta, Mr Peter Katjavivi (London representative of Swapo) and Professor Istvan Mezaros gave addresses. Sir Harold Wilson, MP, was represented by Mrs Crispin Wilson and the Leader fo the Liberal Party by Mr Nadir Dinshaw. The Bishop of Stepney and the Right Rev Edward Knapp-Fisher (representing the Archbishop of Cape Town) were robed and in the sanctuary. Among those present were:
Mrs Winter (widow), Mr Paul Winter and Mr Mark Winter (sons), Miss Clare Winter, Miss Rachel Winter and Miss Catherine Winter (daughters), Mr and Mrs Eric Shenton (sister and brother-in-law), Mr Clifford Winter (brother).
The Hon David Astor, Miss Mary Benson, the Right Rev Edward Capper (CPSA), Canon Edward Charles (Christian Socialist Movement) Mrs Ethel de Keyser (International Defence and Aid Fund), Mr Cosmos Desmond, Mrs Geoffrey Lampe, Canon Paul Oestreicher (British Council of Churches), Canon James Robertson (USPG), Mrs Mark Santer, the Rev Michael Scott, Father Aelred Stubbs, CR, Mr Randolph Vigne and Canon Wilfred Wood.

Latest wills

Mrs Ivy May Coggan, of St George, Bristol, left estate valued at £408,797 net. After personal bequests totalling £300 she left three-tenths of the residue each to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, a fifth to the RSPCA and a tenth each to the Children's Society and Dr Barnardo's.

£17,600 for exotic shrine

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The Philippine National Bank spent £17,600 (estimate £3,000 to £5,000) on a lavishly ornate silver filigree Chinese shrine, inset with amber beads and kingfisher feathers, at a sale at Christie's yesterday. It is in the form of a four-poster bed on which a ivory child, well dressed in pretty gold sandals, is lying on lace pillows.

The bed is surmounted by a cross and angels playing musical instruments. Parcel-gilt bells and symbols of the Passion dangle on chains in place of curtains, and the traditional Chinese phoenix and storks decorate the frame.

Christie's catalogue suggests that the child is the infant Christ, but the whole exotic piece could equally be a memorial to the dead son of some very superior Christian mother.

A tradition in the vendor's family records that it was taken by their ancestor, Brigadier-General Draper, at the Siege of Manila in 1762, which presumably explains its interest to the Philippines. Christie's, however, had hedged its bets, suggesting it could be of either the eighteenth or nineteenth century.

Calls to the Bar in Michaelmas term

The following students of the Inns of Court have been called to the Bar in Michaelmas Term:

LINCOLN'S INN

[illegible] Ryrne, BA (N London Poly): C J Prince, BA (Newcastle Poly): B L Clifford, LLB (London): H Singh, LLB (London): W P Fongenie, BA (Ealing Coll of HE): N R E Hedderly, BA Law (N London Poly): P R Sheppard, BA (Chelmer Inst of HE): P V Kapur, LLB (Delhi).

MIDDLE TEMPLE

[illegible] Poly): S W L Hand, LLB (Leicester): T C Reardon, LLB (Warwick): R. M. T. Gibson, BA (Oxford): Lim Tall Keong, LLB (Cardiff): P MaGrath, LLB (Exeter): G J Pegg, BA (Kent): Jill S Morgan, BA (East Anglia): J A Herman, BA (Cambridge): M D McLaren, BA (Cambridge): D S Hassell, LLB (London): Elizabeth J Davies, MA (Oxford), Dip L: D P Dix, BSc (Aston), Dip L: Judith I Pinder, LLB (London): Jacqueline A Smart, LLB (London): R D Hirst, BA (Oxford):
R G Abbey Smith, BA (Oxford): T R Jefferies, BA (Durham), Dip L: D I D Young, BA (Hatfield Poly): L G Mavrikios, LLI (Buckingham): N I Brooks, LLB (Hull): A J Lewis, BA (Cambridge): Jacqueline E Beech, BA (Preston Poly): R Napal, LLB (Leeds): D J C McVicker, BA (Ealing College of HE), LLM (LSE): Ruth Harrison, LLB (LSE): P D M Lim, BA (Oxford): S E Wood, LLB (Newcastle).
Mrs Sandra G Pontac, BA (South Bank Poly): M D Tomassi, BA (Chelmer Inst of HE): M A Jenkins, BA (Chelmer Inst of HE): Pushpambigai Ponniah, LLB (London): F Nixon, BA (Chelmer Inst of HE): M T Molan, BA (South [illegible]

GRAY'S INN

[illegible] (Oxford): D J Barnes, BSc (Cardiff): C J E Rogers, BA (Cambridge): T F Corner, BA, BCL (Oxford): S R Carruthers, BA (Cambridge): G P Lazarus, LLB (Cardiff): T M Daber, LLB (London): Kathryn A Jenkins, BSc (Surrey): A H Milne, BA (Nottingham): P E White, LLB (Cardiff): N D Martin, BA (Cambridge): S J P Perry, LLB (London): Catherine A Crisham, BA (Oxford), LLM (Exeter): P T Rose, LLB (Reading): Amanda J le Cudennec, LLB (Southampton): Lindsay J Maguire, BA (Leeds Poly): M A Kennedy, BSc (Surrey): Stephanie J Duck, BA (Leeds Poly): Cairiona A C Murfitt, BA (Leicester Poly): Niloufer A. Raman, BA (Ealing College of HE): Felicity K Russell, BA (Lanchester Poly): Angela V Glenn, BA (Leeds Poly): I P H Dumbuya, BA (Manchester Poly): Ann S Warner, BA (Cent London Poly): Ann Bradwell, LLB (LSE): G W Sampson, BA (Ealing Coll of HE): Gloria C L Ailiu-Davies, LLB (London): W B Donnelly, BA (Manchester Poly): Caroline H van Dijk, BA (Cambridge): M F J Egan: A Everall: Shirley Pereira: J D Rosado, LLB (London): E W K Chung, BA (Ealing Coll of HE): R K Luthra, LLB (London).

INNER TEMPLE

A Moore, H B Patel, BSc, LLB (Gujarat), Dip L of (Cent London Poly): Yung Chong Yang, LLB (London) BSc (Singapore): A J Popplewell, BA (Cambridge): Nergis-Anne Mathew, BSc (Bolton Inst of Tech), Dip L (Cent London Poly): Susan Montague, BA (Kent): C B Blackshaw, BA (Cambridge) MA (Inst of European Studies, Brussels): Anna M C Groth, LLB (LSE): R D Lord, BA (Cambridge): K A Mitchell, BA (N E London Poly): A J Hoftsis, BA (Lanchester Poly): R Taposeea, L-in-Law (Buckingham), LLM (Free Univ of Brussels): R C Ntuba, LLB (London), Anne L B Kousseff, L-in-Law (Buckingham): S W Aulsebrook, LLB (Leeds): Anne M Plant, BA (Dorset Inst of HE): I Fessal, LLB (Leeds): D P S Turrell, BA (Cambridge), Dip L (City): N C [illegible]

OBITUARY

SIR OLAF CAROE

Distinguished service in British India

Sir Olaf Caroe, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., F.R.S.L. who died, on November 23 at the age of 89 had a career of great distinction in the foreign department of the Government of India rising to be its Secretary, and was Governor of the North West Frontier Province in the anxious days preceding the transfer of power.

Olaf Kirkpatrick Caroe was the eldest son of William Douglas Caroe and Grace Desborough. He was born on November 15, 1892, educated at Winchester and Magdalen College, Oxford, and was a captain in the 4th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Territorial Forces) during the First World War. He was recruited to the Indian Civil Service in 1919, being in a batch of five officers selected for their war records and posted to the Punjab, all of whom rose to high positions. He joined the political department in 1923, after his novitiate in the Punjab, and was sent to the North West Frontier Province where he served as deputy commissioner in various districts.

In 1933 he was appointed chief secretary to the government of the province. In the following year he was called to Delhi to be deputy secretary of the foreign and political department. For a few months in 1937 he officiated as Resident in the Persian Gulf. He then went to Baluchistan to officiate as agent to the governor-general for a few months, after which he became Revenue and Judicial Commissioner of the Province.

He returned to Delhi shortly before the outbreak of war in 1939 to become secretary of the renamed External Affairs Department. A highly intelligent and studious man, he made time amid his onerous duties to join a small group; of like-minded men, including Mr. H. V. Hodson, Editor of *The Sunday Times*, Mr Guy Wint and Mr. K. M. Panikkar, in the systematic study of problens of the Indian Ocean and Middle East.

In March, 1946, Lord Wavell selected Caroe to be Governor of the North West Frontier Province, with which he was so well acquainted. The time was one of much ferment and anxiety arising from the question of the position of the province in the event of partition and the creation of Pakistan instead of maintaining the unity of the sub-continent. The Red Shirt Prime Minister, Dr. Khan Sahib, and his more vehement brother, Abdul Ghaffar Khan, known as the "Frontier Gandhi" were strongly opposed to separation from India, while supporters of the Muslim League desired partition no less keenly.

When in April 1947 Lord Mountbatten, the last British Viceroy, summoned a conference of provincial Governors, his press officer, Mr. Alan Campbell Johnson, noted in his diary that "Caroe looked tense and tired and was clearly weighed down by his heavy responsibilities." He had been charged in the Congress Press in India with showing partiality to the Muslim League, largely because he had suggested that the issue should be submitted to a referendum. The proposal was distasteful to the leaders of the Indian National Congress, but they gave reluctant consent as part of the price to be paid for complete independence. Thereupon Caroe took what some thought to be the quixotic step of suggesting to the Viceroy that he should be granted leave forthwith, so that the headship of the province should be in other hands while the referendum was being conducted by entirely independent British officers of the Indian Army. The Viceroy in reply assured Caroe of complete confidence in his impartiality, while recognizing and commending his fine public spirit in making the offer. "I know", he wrote, "you have always worked wholeheartedly in the interests of the Province as a whole, and you have done very fine work at a most difficult time."

The Secretary of State granted the leave asked for, and the tall, angular figure of Caroe was seen no more in the regions he knew so well. The Acting Governorship devolved upon Lt.-Gen. Sir Rob Lockhart, who had been G.O.C. Southern Division of India. The referendum decided the issue by a large majority in favour of Pakistan.

On returning home Caroe settled at Steyning at Sussex, and his active churchmanship was shown by his chairmanship of the Chichester diocesan Pastoral Reorganization Committee, which investigated the need for parochial regrouping in view of the changing urban and rural conditions. He was also active in the work of the Overseas League and became vice-chairman of its council. His *Wells of Power* (1951) was a valuable study of the great importance of the oilfields of South West Asia. In the following year his *Soviet Empire* appeared. It relied in the main on personal observation and information gathered during his official career.

The Pathans appeared in 1958; *From Nile to Indus* (written in collaboration with Sir Thomas Rapp and Patrick Reid) two years later and *Poems of Khushhal* (with Sir Evelyn Howell) in 1963. In 1972 he wrote the introduction for a new edition of *Canbul* by Mountstuart Elphinstone.

From 1959 to 1977 he was the first president of the Tibet Society of the United Kingdom. He was an honorary D. Litt of Oxford and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 1959.

Caroe married in 1920, Frances Marion, daughter of the Rt. Rev. A. G. Rawstorne Bishop of Whalley. She was awarded the Kaisar-i-Hind medal in the last year of British rule in India. They had two sons. His wife died in 1969.

MR JOHN CORBETT

Mr John Corbett, a chartered accountant well-known beyond the bounds of his profession, died on November 18 at the age of 78.

A partner in the firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co from 1938 until his retirement in 1971, his reputation for robust and commonsense answers to business problems led to his being in constant demand within the City of London and to a succession of public appointments.

During the Second World War he was a key member of Lord Woolton's team in the Ministry of Food which devised and administered the national system of food rationing. Later in his career, the problem solving skills learnt during this historically critical period resulted in public appointments concerned with matters as varied as Inland Waterways, NAAFI (as chairman — 1960); GPO Procurement Policy and in the late 1960s numerous advisory appointments for the Department of Transport. He will, however, probably be best remembered for his one-man inquiry commissioned by the Ministry of Aviation leading to the Corbett Report on BOAC in 1962.

His other interests were characteristically widespread. He was chairman of the Junior Carlton Club (1970-1977), a member and honorary treasurer of the executive committee of the Pilgrims from 1975 to the time of his death, and he was also closely involved in the community and church life of the village of Cowden in Kent.

Moreover.. Miles Kington

You might think that the Post Office had almost run out of ideas for pictorial postage stamps, so many special issues have they had. Not a bit of it. I am privileged to give you a list of next year's pretty pictures, as provided to me by the Post Office Provisional Philatelic Phink-Tank.

January. Centenary of the invention of the lampshade by British inventor Phineas Damask. Portrait of Damask (11½p), portrait of Damask at night (14p), Victorian brocade lampshade (18p), Art Nouveau lampshade (22p) and modern plastic easy-wipe made-in-Taiwan lampshade (25p).

February. Centenary of death of Charles Darwin, and a chance for his critics to have the right of reply as evolution comes under fire. First two verses of Genesis (12½p), portrait of Adam (15½p), part of Piltdown Man (19½p), Canterbury Cathedral (26p) and drawing of God (29p).

March. An issue to celebrate British darts playing. Photograph of Eric Bristow's little finger (12½p), a pint of beer (15½p), the figure 180 (19½p), workers in a tungsten quarry (26p) and modern plastic easy-throw made-in-Taiwan darts (29p).

April. Special issue to commemorate *Brideshead Revisited Repeated*, in collaboration with Granada Television. Jeremy Irons's autograph (14p), Castle Howard souvenir shop (17p), picture of empty streets on repeat night (22½p).

June. Holiday Safety Precaution Advisory Issue. Picture of 40 milk bottles outside door (18p), passport lying forgotten on sitting room table (21p), picture of foreign tap and basin, with skull and crossbones (26p), bottle of travel sickness pills (31p) and reproduction of Victorian genre painting: "Mother comforting weeping children as father is led away by customs officials" (37p).

July. World Cup Final commemoration issue. Picture of Geoff Hurst with thumbs up (18p), English defender passing back to goalkeeper (21p), wrecked Spanish café with tam o' shanters on ground (26p), English goalkeeper hopelessly stranded as defender's backpass creeps over the line (31p) and cluster of furious players round linesman (37p).

October. Annual Recurrence of Autumn Commemorative Issue. Dead leaves on railway line (30p), cars stuck in snow-drifts on M1 (37p), football pools panel in session (50p), special Post Office offer coupon (70p) and first imported strawberries at Harrods (£1).

Television

Equality myth

A Question of Equality, BBC2's five-part reflection on the educational labyrinth presented by Patrick Nuttgens, Director of Leeds Polytechnic, began last night with a powerful piece of advocacy by the writer and educationist Eric Midwinter. His argument was that equality of opportunity, which he thinks was sold to us by the 1944 Education Act, is a myth and has been proved to be so.

Social class, he argued, determined how far people got and the reason why seven out of ten university students were middle-class was because they came from environments that were an extension of the good school — with books, space, educated parents and an atmosphere conducive to getting on.

He contrasted Bromley with Sandwell to prove his point. Bromley, true blue and affluent, has 13 per cent of its parents university graduates and 14 per cent of its children — twice the national average — following in their footsteps; working-class Sandwell, despite considerable educational effort, has only three per cent of its parents graduates and three per cent of its children following.

Mr Midwinter moved well, like a former welterweight, and threw punches at the class system from all angles, though I thought at least one of his targets was there merely to demonstrate his prowess. He spent some time proving that the working-class were not "thick" — this being one possible explanation, he said, of the disparity in the attainment. I do not think this allegation has had much currency for a long time.

This apart, Mr Midwinter was pretty impressive. His solution is that resources should be centred on improving homes; that a massive programme should be launched to involve working-class parents in the education of their children so that they could be given, instead of the myth of equality of opportunity, "the opportunity of equality."

In the following debate, Mr Midwinter was largely disagreed with by Lord Vaizey, Professor of Economics at Brunel, and Stuart MacLure, editor of *The Times Educational Supplement*, who were dismissive of his arguments but not, to my view, terribly constructive. I gave this one to Mr Midwinter on points. The further bouts in this series should be worth following.

Iris in the Traffic, Ruby in the Rain, by Stewart Parker, a day in the life of two Belfast women, one a social psychologist, coiled to do good work wherever, the other an unemployed salesgirl, was BBC1's *Play for Today*.

It began brilliantly, was episodic and finally inconclusive but pacy, dramatically photographed, well-spiced with Ulster humour and illuminated by a superb performance by Frances Tomelty as the social worker, Ruby. Aingeal Grehan, as Iris the salesgirl, had less occasion to unwrap her psyche but survived well, and Leila Webster provided a grimly believable portrayal of a social misfit.

Dennis Hackett



Nobby Clark

"The 'Oresteia' is more than words. . .it only comes into its own in the theatre": rehearsal at the NT

The total expression of tragedy

Oliver Taplin, fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, introduces the *Oresteia*, which opens at the Olivier Theatre on Saturday. His speciality is Greek tragedy, and his book *The Stagecraft of Aeschylus* opened new windows on the subject.

Statuesque poses and pompous verbiage, the aesthetics of Winckelmann, the choreography of Isadora Duncan and the histrionics of Crummles, make up the stereotype of a Greek tragedy. Granville-Barker was patronizing in 1927: "There are few enough Greek theatres where Greek tragedy can be played; few enough people want to see it, and they will applaud it encouragingly however it is done" — and things seem to have changed little since. Yet the dreary image is a modern imposition; it is not inherent in the plays. In Germany there are now several productions a year holding their own in the professional theatre. There is no need to go quite as far as the version of Euripides's *Phoenician Women* last year where the set was the debris of a multiple car-smash and a chorus of naked beauties disported themselves in pools of motor oil: Peter Stein's recent *Oresteia* in West Berlin was evidently modern and scholarly and gripping.

Greek tragedy is often muffled in a smog of pseudo-scholarship about early myths, poets' biographies and religious festivals. None of this mumbo-jumbo is essential to qualify you to assist at the *Oresteia*: what is indispensable is a readiness to concentrate and to collaborate. If you feel like having a soothing entertainment perpetrated upon you, keep away. If the five or so hours are to be worthwhile, you must be prepared to listen to every word, catch every metaphor, scrutinize every action and inaction. You should be ready to feel uncomfortable emotions, and at the same time to face looming and disturbing thoughts.

There is no wastage or padding in the *Oresteia*. It calls for flexibility and imagination from us — but the same is just as true of a play from seventeenth-century France or nineteenth-century Russia. Above all, this is not naturalistic drama: the language is not conversational, the action not minute and circumstantial, the characters are not obviously ordinary people.

The language is not only not chat: it is *poetry*. Moreover there are three levels of poetry, and these help articulate the shape of the plays. First and foremost there are the spoken lines of the actors, some in long structured speeches, some in dialogue, especially tense line-by-line interchange *(stichomythia)*. The poetry of these spoken iambic acts has much the same relation to colloquial speech as Shakespeare's blank verse had to the ordinary talk of his day. Between these acts come the "odes" of the chorus, with complex rhythms and more rarified language accompanied by music and dance. While these interrupt the run of the action, they are no mere interludes: they present the play on another level, in a sense, an elusive lyric sequence of associations, always tending towards the universal and the timeless. Thirdly, there are lyric scenes in which both actors and chorus participate. These are part of the acts, yet emotionally and poetically they surge out of the argued, earthbound sequence of the speeches to a hovering and unpredictable level of song.

But the *Oresteia* is more than words. Aeschylus did not only write it, he was director, choreographer and composer. His work was made to be performed and only comes into its own in the theatre. Bold stage-directions interlock with vivid imagery. The theatrical purposefulness is exceptionally strong, so that sound and sight and sense are fused.

"Once a man's dark death blood has spilt on the ground, no one can call it back again." The motif recurs again and again throughout the trilogy (it was the *Oresteia* which gave Wagner the idea of the *Leitmotif*). The chorus of the middle play, in support of Orestes's revenge on Clytemnestra, repeatedly sing of how blood shed on the earth demands more blood. Only when they see Orestes stand over two corpses, as his mother had before him, do they see that their precept applies to him no less than her. This is the impasse at the trial: whether it is husband's or mother's, blood is blood, and once spilled it cannot be recovered. This is translated into vivid stage terms when the Furies like hounds follow Orestes by the scent of his mother's blood. The trail is ineradicable.

The very first song of *Agamemnon* establishes a connexion between bloodshed and cloth on the ground. The old men recall how at Agamemnon's departure ten years before Iphigenia's robes flowed to the ground — they cannot bring themselves to tell how her throat was cut. Disquieting echoes reverberate to the central scene where Clytemnestra persuades her victorious husband to trample the rich blood-red cloth she stretches from the palace door to his chariot. He does not see how this leads to his death. Cassandra, by contrast, in token of her insight and knowledge of her fate, throws off her prophetic robes and tramples on them. At the very end of the trilogy the motif is put right in word and deed when the dark female Furies are robed in red to signify their incorporation in the city of Athens.

The language and action of the plays themselves make sense without a blanket of external quasi-facts. These are a smoke screen, a mere evasion. The origins of drama are no more to the point than they are for Brecht or Bond. The details of Aeschylus's life are as unknown and irrelevant as those of his death. It is no more necessary to know the "myths" in advance than it is to know the "history" for Shakespeare's history plays — in fact less so, since Aeschylus had no Holinshed, no fixed version to follow. The fact that the *Oresteia* was first performed at the festival of Dionysus tells us nothing essential about the plays themselves (though the plays may tell us something about the nature of the festival). Athenian politics of 458 B.C. are subsumed in a timeless Athens that stands for the "just city" of any period or place.

Rich yet purposeful poetry and imagery combine with powerful theatre to arouse an ever-shifting sequence of forceful emotions. This is not to say that the *Oresteia* is a purely sensuous or aesthetic experience. There are plenty of thought-provoking issues, most of them no less keen today than 2500 years ago: responsibility, circumstance and guilt, the ambivalent justice of war, the threatening self-assertion of women, the morality of revenge, the place of fear in social coherence, the claims of blood-kinship set against relations "in-law", the conflict of male and female, new and old. But to sense and engage with these problems does not require a preparatory briefing. The plays raise the issues for themselves. What they call for is an audience with an open mind, willing to make an effort.

Experimental music

A world of dreams

Jon Hassell

Public Theatre, New York

One of a number of musicians presently dreaming of a "world music" in which various ethnic strains are reconciled, the American trumpeter Jon Hassell has achieved an approach which is producing work of quite extraordinary beauty. A former student of Stockhausen and the Indian singer Pandit Pran Nath, and a collaborator with La Monte Young, Terry Riley and Brian Eno, Hassell blends his experiences in such a way that the components — African drumming, Indian microtonality, Balinese tranquillity — make a new palette while forfeiting none of the individual colours.

Hassell and his group, which includes two percussionists, a bass guitarist and a fifth member whose function is to provide electronic treatments, performed twice in New York at the weekend, not only emphasizing the good impression made by two recent recordings, *Possible Musics* and *Dream Theory in Malaya*, but suggesting that their discoveries could achieve a popularity beyond the confines of the downtown avant garde.

The content of the music may have evolved from a complex of ideas, but the structure is simple and immediately accessible. The percussionists (variously employing congas, hand-clapping, tablas and bowls) and the bassist set up a light rhythmic continuum, prepared tapes provide textures (including discreet "found noises" such as desert winds and barking dogs) and Hassell improvises over the results in the manner, although not the style, of a jazz soloist.

The melodic content of Hassell's line, whose rapid curling phrases glance weightlessly off the background figurations, is remarkable enough, but the sound he produces is utterly mesmerizing and gives the music its signature.

The nature of the event, with Hassell sitting quietly on a cushion and pointing his bell down to a microphone positioned on the floor, candlelight defining the outlines of his clustered accompanists, may have been reminiscent of the Sixties, but the rapt attention of the audience suggested that, whatever one's reservations about contemporary eclecticism, here is a synthesis which delivers the goods and which certainly deserves the widest possible exposure.

Richard Williams

Theatre

Hansel and Gretel

Warehouse

When a reputable playwright reworks a fairy tale for production by the RSC, reviewers are apt to assume that he has some crafty Orwellian purpose in mind, as I did when David Rudkin's piece first appeared at Stratford last year. A second viewing, coupled with an author's programme note, knocks that one firmly on the head. *Hansel and Gretel* may contain references to productivity and cuts, but the real interest of the piece is in seeing what a modern imagination can make of the old story.

The first two scenes tell you what to expect. First comes the carnivorous spectre of Brenda Bruce, favouring us with a hideous grin as she announces "these are the clothes of children I have eaten"; immediately followed by the sight of a wrathful suburban mother, with hang-dog husband and baby in tow, abandoning the hiding tots in Bluebell Woods to teach them a lesson. She could almost be a witch herself.

The storytelling thus cuts two ways; at once revealing the nightmare patterns under everyday life, and the domestic reality of horror.

At first glance Chris Dyer's set suggests a Grimm engraving brought to life. Look a bit closer and you notice a blackened pedal-bin, a large foil-lined box ("for micro-waving little boys"), and an electric eye in the cottage door. Here Miss Bruce lures the blubbery infants while posing as lovable old Grannie Daw, before getting rigged up in a long black leg-flashing number, ready for the coven's weekly disco if only she can get her broomstick to start.

Besides the captives, the household includes a ghoul servant and the Witch's faceless daughter Olive (Barbara Kinghorn) who engage in a grisly parody of family life, reaching its climax in Ron Daniels's production when Olive turns sorcerer's apprentice with a kitchen blender.

Miss Bruce has the time of her life as the monstrous, many-faced witch; but, curiously, her victims also begin looking like monsters — Alan Hendrick's finally treacherous Hansel, and Janine Duvitski's collaborationist Gretel. The only remotely sympathetic character is the feebly commonplace father, last seen looking on as his appalling brood wreck the living room and his wife sweeps out to take possession of Gingerbread Cottage. Speaking as a father, I can only say I was shaken but not stirred.

Irving Wardle

Her Royal Highness. . .?

Palace

As an author, Royce Ryton has been well served by royalty: Edward VIII (in *Crown Matrimonial*), Edward VIII, Anastasia, Alexandra and now our newest Princess. There can be few playwrights who better understand how it feels to be royal, and the immensely detailed, documentary-like approach of his Abdication play does equally well for the agonies of public courtship and the burden of a girl whose wave must henceforth never tire and whose smile never crack.

But that is only half the play. It is tempting to see the hand of Mr Ryton's collaborator, Ray Cooney, taking over as we tumble into silliest farce, though having sat through Mr Ryton's one West End comedy I am not so sure. At all events, Diana takes fright and flees, and is replaced by the barmaid winner of an Australian look-alike contest who exclaims "Well, I'll be a widdling wombat!" before submitting to a crash course in curtseys.

It is resourceful, as well as loyal, to reinterpret the black frock episode and the tears at polo as just evidence of a substitute's inexperience. But that is the show's last witty idea, and from then on the frightful Mavis doggedly follows Liza Doolittle's course via vowel instruction to a Cowdray Park replay of *My Fair Lady's* Ascot scene where she screams expletives from the touchline and dismisses King Constantine with a cheerful "Refugees first". The rest is nonsense, which may not bother an audience that cackles when she says "camp aide" for aide-de-camp, but it wrecks a touching scene when the Queen Mother comforts the real Diana before her ordeal: since the other one has got away doing Calamity Jane, what has she to fear?

Before having to clown, which she does well enough, Eva Lohman successfully creates Diana by hints of her dimples and endearing habit of standing with legs at curious angles. Even allowing for Claire Elyth's beautifully precise costuming, most of the impersonations also work by suggestion: Morar Kennedy captures the Queen's angle of head and bust as exactly as the placing of the brooch on the jersey dress, and Marc Sinden stands with fingers dipped in his jacket pockets at just the Prince's depth. He also preserves the right expression of charmed interest whatever fatuous scene meets his eyes: and I doubt whether even the real-life Charles needs it more.

Anthony Masters

Concerts

Bournemouth SO/Segal

Festival Hall

For their major St Cecilia concert, Uri Segal and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra last Thursday paired Mahler's sixth symphony with Beethoven's first piano concerto (Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich as soloist) at the Winter Gardens there, and on Monday brought the same programme to London.

Little can they have known, when they fixed the programme, that London would have recently heard an illustrious series of the Beethoven piano concertos, and at least one fine account of Mahler 6 (it used to be a London concert rarity, but has lately been figuring regularly at the Festival Hall). Perhaps that is why the hall was not quite as full as might have been expected for such a concert.

It was interesting, not odious, to compare Bishop-Kovacevich's reading of the C major Beethoven concerto with Brendel's of a few week's ago. Monday's performance was big and mellow in conception, at its most eloquent in the first movement cadenza (again the spacious third version) and the slow movement's grandiose reverie, more forward-looking in style than Brendel's.

Bishop-Kovacevich's interpretation was also less sharp-featured in detail and character, as memory kept tiresomely reminding me; and the orchestra seemed to have given more rehearsal time, understandably, to the less familiar, enormous, and difficult Mahler symphony. It was after the interval that we heard the BSO in the fine-toned, well-disciplined form nowadays expected of their South Bank concerts.

Incisive woodwind, especially their acrimonious, sardonic oboes and clarinets in the nightmare music of the first two movements, stood out, and the clean, succulent high violin lines (still part of the Silvestri legacy), and reliable heavy brass. Segal's reading paid exemplary attention to clarity of detail in the elaborate contrapuntal music. It was seldom that an important musical incident did not emerge as clearly as a devotee could wish (the second hammer-blow was a rare casualty, and one entry of off-stage cowbells sounded too faint, but only one).

Segal opts for steady tempi, strongly rhythmical. Some of the music's urgency was missing, though not in the finale which was soundly weighted and built in performance. The slow movement (placed third) was moulded with real affection.

William Mann

Schools Prom

Albert Hall

Last year's Schools Proms started in high spirits with dancing in the aisles to Susato: the temperature at this year's first night rose more slowly despite the rousing, yet always sophisticated and finely textured playing of the William Rhodes School brass band from Chesterfield.

These three-day Proms, for anyone who does not know, are a cunningly stage-managed fusion of end-of-term concert, television chat show and crash course in musical history, jointly sponsored by *The Times*. After the unusually bland items in the first half this year, and after hearing every detail of the compère Antony Hopkins's illness in Japan, it was a relief to listen to the Bridlington String Group, 56 young players in this non-selective, self-financing strathspey-style band, played one of Satie's *Gymnopédies* and a reel, both in imaginative arrangements by their conductor Gillian Hogg. Many miles away from Suzuki (hence the traveller's tales), their playing has a captivating and refreshingly rough-hewn character that sparked off the first signs of audience participation, heads bobbing, feet tapping.

Flanking the interval were two jazz bands, turning the spotlight on this year's speciality. The Bavarian Turkheim Schoolband, this year's guests, proved that decibels create decibels, whipping up the audience with four uniformly brazen, slickly professional big band numbers. Sammy Nestico's arrangement of *Double Exposure* featured Humphrey Lyttelton as guest soloist with the highly accomplished Solihull Youth Jazz Orchestra.

Jenny's Accordionists from Colchester were formed to take part in the National Festival of Music for Youth which spawned the Schools Prom: sounding for all the world like a brightly-painted fairground Gavioli they were a nice foil for the alert, flexible musicianship of the Solihull Sixth Form College Brass Quintet.

Surprisingly rapt silence and equally ecstatic applause greeted Robert Cohen and the Surrey County Youth Orchestra in the first movement of Dvorak's Cello Concerto, its encapsulation of the entire work's changing moods caught with affection and fresh youthful enthusiasm.

Hilary Finch

Stock Exchange Prices

Rally at the close

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Nov 23. Dealings End, Dec 4. § Contango Day, Dec 7. Settlement Day, Dec 14

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

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Business News

THE TIMES Wednesday November 25 1981



Dollar hit by cut in US prime rates

By Frances Williams

United States interest rates took a further tumble yesterday as several American banks cut their prime lending rates amid continued optimism that more cuts are on the way.

But the lead taken by Chase Manhattan, which cut its prime rate from 16½ to 15¾ per cent, was not followed by the others which moved to a more cautious 16 per cent.

The interest rate falls, together with news of a smaller than expected rise in the United States consumer price index last month, gave the dollar a sharp knock on the international currency markets.

It slumped 2.22 pfennigs to DM 2.2250 at the end of London trading against a generally stronger Deutschmark, while the pound climbed to its highest level against the dollar since June, rising 1.40 cents to finish trading at $1.9185.

Wall Street welcomed the lower interest rates, however. The Dow Jones industrial average, which showed only slight gains for most of the day, took off in mid-afternoon to close up 18.45 at 870.24. "The prime rate came down much faster and deeper than we had thought", one analyst said.

The cut in American prime rates—the rates at which banks lend to their best corporate customers—follows a steady decline in money market rates, and most analysts are confident that more cuts are likely before the end of the year. Levels as low as 13 per cent are being predicted.

Market watchers are also expecting a further drop of perhaps 1 percentage point in the Federal Reserve Board's 13 per cent discount rate, at which it lends to banks and other financial institutions. Last week the Fed abolished the 2 per cent surcharge to persistent borrowers at the discount window.

In addition, analysts are hopeful that the Fed will relax its monetary stance as inflation eases. Yesterday's figures, showing a modest 0.4 per cent rise in the consumer price index in October, have encouraged these hopes.

It brings America's 12-month inflation rate to 10.2 per cent, down from 11 per cent in September when the index jumped 1.2 per cent. October's rise is the lowest monthly increase since April.

The pound's improved level against the dollar reflects a widening differential between American and British interest rates. Three-month Eurodollar deposits, for example, were trading yesterday at 12¼ per cent compared with a sterling interbank rate of 14¾ per cent.

The cut in prime rates and the improved performance in the New York bond market after Monday's shake-out made for a sharp revival in the gilt-edged market yesterday afternoon.

Earlier in the day, long gilts had extended the previous day's falls by as much as ¾ of a point. But as the better news from New York came through, prices turned round sharply and many issues finished the day with small gains.

This morning, the key seven-day interbank rate is expected to be slightly lower, in the region of 15⅛-15⅜. In itself that would suggest that the banks could be close to the point where a small cut in base rates would be possible without the danger of round-tripping. It remains to be seen whether the banks consider the safety margin sufficient in such volatile conditions.

Financial editor, page 19

Cut-price BA fares for travel agents

From Derek Harris
Commercial Editor
Phoenix, Arizona, Nov 24

Discounted British Airways tickets, hitherto available only through "bucket shops", are to be sold over the counters of High Street travel agents belonging to the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA).

The three-month experimental scheme starts on January 1 with bookings being taken from December 14. At this stage only some Far East destinations will be covered.

The deal was announced here today as ABTA's annual convention opened.

Discounts on regular fares will normally be about 25 per cent. Prices will be competitive with bucket shop tickets for direct flights from Britain to Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Tokyo, Osaka and Jakarta.

Both ABTA and British Airways acknowledge that the move will technically be illegal, infringing fare levels notified to governments as part of an airline's licensing agreement. The Government has not yet been informed of the scheme.

Mr Jim Harris, head of British Airways' United Kingdom and Ireland division, said: "Our licence may be in jeopardy in theory, but in practice this is most unlikely." The Government until now has turned a blind eye to the trade in discounted tickets through bucket shops.

A joint statement by British Airways and ABTA indicated that the scheme was likely to be extended to other parts of the world if it reduced discounting on Far East routes by foreign airlines.

ABTA is expected to approach other international airlines on the possibility of making discounted tickets available.

The new scheme means that for the first time travellers can buy discounted tickets backed by ABTA consumer protection guarantees.

Lacemakers get weaving to beat recession

Lacemakers at a Derbyshire factory have been working round the clock to meet orders for which they have been "scouring the world", Mr David Attenborough, joint managing director (above), said yesterday.

At the Birkin Group's factory at Borrowash, 21 employees are now working a night shift as a result of the sales effort. At the company's other main factory at Long Eaton, Derbyshire, three employees made redundant a few months ago have been given their jobs back.

Mr Attenborough said: "We are turning out a lot of lace, particularly at Borrowash, but sales are being achieved only by scouring the world for orders, and in many cases accepting business below cost to maintain employment and keep the team together."

Adult workless total up 35,500

By David Blake, Economics Editor

Unemployment fell by 34,230 (0.2 per cent) last month to 2,954,414 or 12.2 per cent of the total workforce. The fall was due to a drop in the number of unemployed school-leavers.

However, adult unemployment continued its steady rise, going up 35,500 to 2,764,000, or 11.4 per cent of the adult workforce after seasonal factors are excluded.

The news is good for the Government for two reasons. The 3 million total has been avoided just before the Crosby by-election and, economically more significant, the adult unemployment rate may be rising slightly more slowly than it was in the early Autumn. It now looks probable that the total will not go above 3 million before January.

These consolations do not conceal the blackness of the unemployment picture. Vacancies showed only a small increase in November from their October level, after allowance is made for seasonal factors, and redundancies are still being announced at a rapid rate.

Most of the improvement in the crude figure is due to school-leavers going off the register, not to jobs but to places on the Youth Opportunities Programme.

The figures would be worse but for a variety of Government measures to keep people out of the dole queues, of which state aid for short-time working is the most important. These schemes are estimated to be keeping 355,000 people off the register.

It seems nearly certain, however, that an inrush of school-leavers, and other seasonal factors, will produce the 3 million figure in January unless the Government acts to remove still more people from the register. There is little prospect of any reduction in the underlying level before the middle of next year at the earliest.

The figures produced protests from unions and the Labour Party and a statement by Sir Raymond Pennock, of the Confederation of British Industry, drawing attention to the Confederation's call for reflation.

The figures show that the Midlands, after experiencing a particularly bad period in unemployment, has recorded a slight drop in the underlying rate. But at 13.8 per cent, unemployment in the West Midlands is still one of the worst in Britain, after the North of England (14.8) and Wales (14.6 per cent).

Northern Ireland remains far worse than anywhere else with 17.6 per cent adult unemployment. The best-off region is Greater London, with with 8.2 per cent.

Men are most likely to be recorded as out of work than women due to the fact that many women who would like jobs do not bother to register. More than one man in six is unemployed in Wales, the North West, the West Midlands and the North of England.

The unemployment rate is one of the highest in Europe. The proportion out of work in Belgium is 14.8 per cent, but France (9.7 per cent), Germany (6.2 per cent), Italy (9.9 per cent) and Holland (9.5 per cent) are all better off.

A way of life, page 19

Telecom placing £600m orders

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

British Telecom is to order another £600m worth of electronic telephone exchanges from its three main suppliers: Standard Telephones and Cables, Plessey and GEC.

The money will be spent between 1982 and 1985 on 190 new TXE4A exchanges and 54 extensions to existing exchanges. The equipment will be installed in towns and cities throughout Britain, including 16 new exchanges in London.

The TXE4A has been called a "semi-electronic" exchange. It is an intermediate step between the old electromechanical exchanges and System X, the fully electronic digital exchange which British Telecom will begin to install in large numbers during the late 1980s and early 1990s.

The first TXE4A was installed in Leicestershire a year ago, and the three suppliers had already received orders for £225m worth before yesterday's announcement by British Telecom. Although the breakdown between the three manufacturers was not revealed, industry sources expect each company to get about £200m or orders.

Sir George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, said the corporation's contracts provided direct employment for about 100,000 people in British manufacturing industry and sustained another 100,000 jobs indirectly.

The TXE family of exchanges was originally designed by Standard Telephones. It was then developed by British Telecom into the TXE4. The "A" version is more sophisticated.

Two prototype System X exchanges are now in operation (in the City of London and at Woodbridge, Suffolk) but the digital equipment is not yet well enough developed for large-scale introduction.

Govan deal brings work for two years

By Baron Phillips

British Shipbuilders has won a further order, worth about £30m, from Jebsens (UK), the British affiliate of the Norwegian group Kristian Rederi.

The contract, for two 45,000 ton carriers, will be undertaken by Govan Shipbuilders, Glasgow, who expect to deliver by the end of 1983.

Over the past four months Govan has won contracts for seven vessels of nearly 300,000 tons dwt, worth about £125m.

Mr Eric Mackie, managing director of Govan, described the deal as encouraging and gave the yard work for the next two years.

The Jebsen group owns some 70 bulk carriers, many of which operate under the British flag. Mr Atle Jebsen, chairman of the United Kingdom company, said: "I am very happy that as a group we have found it possible to build again in Britain.

"We have had ties with British yards for more than 30 years and, together with associated companies, have built 29 vessels in the United Kingdom. I expect our British presence to continue to be an important part of our group."

Laker loan talks run into trouble

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sir Freddie Laker's attempts to reschedule the $131m (£68.6m) syndicated loan which Laker Airways used to buy three A300 Airbuses have run into problems. Midland Bank, which leads the syndicate of 13 banks, confirmed yesterday that agreement was taking longer than expected. Sir Freddie Laker was not available to comment.

Ten of the banks have agreed to the rescheduling, which involved deferring for a year two capital repayments of $6.9m due next January and July. Dresdner Bank, Bayerische Vereinsbank and one other are believed to be unhappy because the proposals do not involve any conditions or restraints on Laker.

Laker Airways has already agreed terms with Eximbank, the American export credit agency, for rescheduling other debts used to buy five McDonnell Douglas DC-10s.

Brazilian banks may underpin cocoa price

By Michael Prest, Commodities Correspondent

Brazilian banks are considering lending the International Cocoa Organization $85m (£44.5m) to fund purchases for the organization's buffer stock from cocoa producers.

Prices touched their lowest point since July at the end of last week when cocoa for March delivery was £1,066.50 a tonne in London. This is well below the range agreed by cocoa exporters and producers in August.

But a series of measures adopted by the organization's executive committee last week have slightly encouraged the market. March cocoa closed in London yesterday at £1,088.50 a tonne.

One of the measures was that the buffer stock manager should be allowed to arrange commercial loans of up to $120m. Since August, the manager has spent $170m of the $232m available to him and has bought 64,000 tonnes of cocoa.

Reports from Rio de Janeiro yesterday said that four Brazilian banks, including the Banco Economico, were interested in supporting the buffer stock. Sr Angelo Calmon de Sa, president of Banco Economico, is expected in London soon for discussions with the International Cocoa Organization.

It is understood that other Brazilian banks may also be willing to put up funds, perhaps bringing the total to $120m. Brazil is the world's second biggest cocoa producer after the Ivory Coast.

The buffer stock was also allowed to buy up to 36,000 tonnes of cocoa on part payment for delivery in July

Trade sources in London are cautious, however, about the success of these measures. They point out that cocoa stocks stand at 500,000 tonnes, and production still exceeds consumption.

Coal Board thinks about Isle of Grain

By Rupert Morris

British Petroleum has had discussions with the National Coal Board about the possible use of its Isle of Grain refinery which is due to close by the end of 1982.

BP is not optimistic about finding work for the 1,670 employees at Grain who have received redundancy notices.

Although the company has been talking with other oil companies about the 1,300-acre site, it is unlikely that it would be bought as a refinery at a time when most European refineries are working below capacity.

However, the National Coal Board and other organizations may be interested in the Isle of Grain because of its deep-water port and potential as a shipping terminal.

BP announced yesterday that it is cutting primary distillation capacity at its refinery in Rotterdam, from 23 million to 20 million tonnes a year.

The Rotterdam plant has been operating at 40 to 50 per cent of capacity, but output is expected to improve when the catalytic cracker comes into action next year.

Syndicated loan for N Sea field

By Our Banking Correspondent

Marathon Oil's British subsidiary is raising $650m to help develop its South Brae field with a syndicated loan, an innovation in North Sea financing.

Under the loan agreement, the banks can be asked to share in a large part of the risks involved in bringing the field on stream. Although Marathon, which is being bid for in the United States by US Steel, has already used this type of non-recourse financing in a $300m loan for developing the Kinsale Head field in the Celtic Sea, this is the first time it has been used in North Sea financing.

Joint lead managers of the $650m secured proceeds production payment, which involves 20 international banks, are Chase Merchant Banking Group and National Westminster. Details have not been disclosed but the loan is expected to be for seven years.

When the field reaches an agreed level of production, the banks can be asked to take non-recourse risk for the whole of the loan.

Stock Markets

FT Index 520.0 up 2.2
FT Gilts 64.12 up 0.16
FT All Share 307.37 up 1.20
Bargains 17,090

Sterling

$ 1.9185 up 140 points
Index 90.4 down 0.3
New York: $1.9268

Dollar

Index 106.0 down 0.3
DM 2.2250 down 222 pts

Gold

$ 400.00 up $ 4.50
New York: $401.80

Money

3 mth sterling 15-14⅞
3 mth Euro $ 12⅛-12⅜
6 mth Euro $ 12$\frac{11}{16}$-12$\frac{13}{16}$

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

BPB Ind	24p to 306p
Bank Of Scotlnd	10p to 439p
Barratt Devs	8p to 242p
Braham Millar	5½p to 32p
Castlefield	10p to 370p
Geers Gross	10p to 118p
GEC	10p to 762p
Husky Oil	20p to 550p
Link House	7p to 233p
Pilkington Bros	7p to 278p
Thorn EMI	12p to 453p
Tunnel Hldgs B	10p to 500p
Utd Scientific	10p to 488p
Weeks Petrol	30p to 345p
WGI	8p to 98p

Falls

Aeron't & Gen	5p to 240p
Ass Fisheries	5p to 69p
Berkeley Exp	5p to 378p
Caffyns	8p to 134p
Can O'seas Pack	15p to 195p
Haden	5p to 218p
Kinross	18p to 561p
Massey-Ferg	5p to 95p
Peko Wallsend	8p to 310p
Pretoria Portlnd	10p to 385p
Ranger Oil	20p to 430p
Reckitt & Clmn	6p to 242p
Sotheby PB	5p to 440p
SA Land	7p to 185p
Trust Secs	10p to 330p

£45m profit for Ranks

Ranks Hovis McDougall, the Mother's Pride and Hovis bakery group, has reported a 41.4 per cent increase in pretax profits for the year to September 5 at £45.275m, up from £32.024m a year earlier.

The figures are in line with a company forecast made earlier this month when it bought a 10.6 per cent stake in British Sugar in retaliation to a British Sugar "dawn raid" on Ranks.

The full-year figures show sales 8 per cent higher at £1,573m. The dividend for the full year is being increased to 5.51p gross from 5.21p a year earlier.

Financial Editor, page 19

Unit trusts net more money

New money invested in unit trusts went up by £4.3m during October to £25.7m even though total sales slid to £59.6m from £70m in September. The number of investors cashing in units fell even more steeply from £48.6m to £33.8m. This figure is the lowest since June and the £25.7m net sales is the second lowest of the year.

The shares of BPB Industries, the plasterboard and building materials group, jumped 24p to 306p yesterday after publication of a £9m improvement in first-half profits. In the six months to September the group made pretax profits of £29.8m.

Financial Editor, page 19

☐ Trading in Du Pont Canada shares was halted on the Toronto stock exchange yesterday. The company said it would make an announcement today. It dismissed rumours of a takeover bid as pure speculation.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Faint glimmer of interest in Hanson bid for Berec

Hanson Trust disclosed yesterday that its £73m takeover bid for the Ever Ready battery group Berec has attracted holders of just 1.25 per cent of the shares (Philip Robinson writes). This is 2.33 per cent lower than the figure revealed earlier this month before Thomas Tilling came in with an £89m rival offer.

Hanson, offering alternatives of loan stock, shares and cash with a top value of around 114p a share, owns 15.69 per cent of the Berec votes and has extended its offer until December 14. That is four days after the first closing date of the Tilling bid. If Hanson chairman, Sir James Hanson, is to make a fight of it, a decision on whether he will increase his offer is likely to come within a fortnight.

He has not said his offer is final. If he withdraws it will be the fourth unsuccessful takeover bid this year.

Last night, the Berec share price closed a penny lower at 129p. Thomas Tilling was down 2p to 135p, Hanson rose 2p to 278p.

More spent on foreign travel

Overseas visitors spent £345m in Britain during September, an increase of 10 per cent on the September 1980, while United Kingdom residents spent £500m abroad, an increase of 28 per cent, according to Department of Trade estimates. During September, 1,180,000 visitors came to Britain while 2,580,000 United Kingdom residents travelled abroad.

☐ Australian-based News Corporation is raising $A75m (£45m) through an eight-year Eurocredit, partly for refinancing debts, Hambros Bank said in London yesterday. The loan, to be raised in the name of wholly-owned subsidiary News Credits NV, will also be used for general corporate purposes.

New talks on Japan van sales

Senior representatives of the British and Japanese motor industries will begin a new round of talks in London today at which a major topic will be the continuing high share of the United Kingdom market for light vans being captured by the Japanese. At the end of last month, Japanese vans took a quarter of total sales.

Nissan project, page 18

GEC jobs cut

General Electric Company is to shed around 370 jobs at its Liverpool plant because of a slump in demand. More than 2,000 workers at GEC's fusegear plant have been on short time since October, last year.

☐ Merger talks are taking place between stockbrokers Duff Stoop and Co., a nine-partner firm, with Frank Statham and Co.

Tebbit warned

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, last night warned Mr Norman Tebbit, Employment Secretary, "If you can't solve the problem of workers in industry, then please don't hinder."

Mr Murray was speaking at a National Economic Development Council conference in London 24 hours after the publication of Mr Tebbit's labour relations Bill which aims at curbing trade union power.

Mr Murray's remarks appeared to receive a cool reception from Mr Tebbit, who was also at the conference (Edward Townsend writes).

Sir Campbell Fraser, deputy president of the Confederation of British Industry, told the conference: "Don't let us get into a situation where willy-nilly we are designing down to a price instead of up to a standard. Price is an absolutely vital factor in the competitive mix. But is no use getting the price right if we let quality—and design, delivery and service—go to hell.

"The old maxim 'if a job is worth doing it is worth doing well' may be a clitche. But it happens to be true.

TODAY

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, gives evidence on his corporate plan to the Industry and Trade Select Committee in London.

Life Insurance Congress opens at Wembley.

Company results: Burton Group, Comet Radiovision, Kwik Save Discount (finals); Johnson Matthey, Rothmans International, Wedgwood (half-yearly).

Gold fever grips Japan buyers as prices fall

Tokyo, Nov 24. — The fall in the international gold price has triggered a "gold rush" in Japan.

For the past week small investors have been forming long queues outside gold dealers hoping to capitalize on tumbling gold prices and the recent strength of the Japanese yen against the dollar, which makes gold cheaper to buy with yen.

The price of the metal today fell to a two-year low of 2,830 yen ($13) per gramme — about $405 per troy ounce — compared with 3,320 yen ($15.3) last month, according to a spokesman for Japan's leading gold retailer, Tanaka Kinzoku Kogyo.

The last Japanese gold rush was in January 1980 when record world prices pushed gold up to about 6,500 yen ($30) per gramme. At that time, the spokesman said, his company's shop in central Tokyo was besieged by housewives and office workers anxious to sell their gold holdings.

More than 200 people were outside the same shop today, this time buyers who apparently hope the recent downward trend for gold will soon reverse, providing them with handsome profits.

The world price has receded from $460 an ounce in September to a three-month low of $396 yesterday, mainly owing to investor concern about the depth of the United States recession.

Some experts have forecast that, despite occasional rallies, gold price will soon fall below $390 for the first time in two years and could even drop to $300.

Japanese imports of gold, other than gold coins, increased to 9.03 tonnes last month from 8.33 tonnes in September and 5.46 tonnes in August, according to the Tokyo finance ministry. Gold imports in the first 10 months of this year jumped to 101 tonnes from 31.8 tonnes in the whole of 1980. — Reuter.

Tea strike threatens Nissan's UK project

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo Nov 24

The Nissan Motor Company's plan to set up a multi-million pound plant in one of Britain's depressed areas is in jeopardy once again, this time because of the BL tea break strike, now in its third week.

I understand that Nissan, whose plan is already held up partly because of worries about inter-union rivalry in Britain, would probably not build the plant if the unions insisted on workers having 52 minutes' rest a day for tea breaks and relaxation.

At BL, Longbridge, members of the Transport and General Workers Union and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers are on strike because the management wants to reduce their 52-minute tea-break and relaxation time by 12 minutes.

Rivalry between these two unions is one reason why Nissan has not announced definitely that it is going to build its factory and has ordered another feasibility study with the aim of making a final decision in the new year.

Nissan, which gives 57,000 workers in Japan two ten-minute tea breaks daily, has made no comment on the BL strike but one executive, who wished to be anonymous, said the company had been following it "with some interest". I was told that insistence on any protracted tea-breaks would probably kill the plan.

Mr Koji Shihoh, a spokesman for Nissans's international division, refused to comment on the company's future in Britain, but said: "I was astounded by the labour dispute. In Japan, we negotiate to the very last minute to avert strikes".

Nissan employees work a nine-hour shift five days a week and are allowed a one-hour lunch break as well as the tea breaks. The company has not had a strike during 27 years of continuous production and made an after-tax profit of £98m in the first six months of this year.

Toyota, Japan's largest car producer and the world's second largest after General Motors, gives its workers two ten-minute tea breaks a day. It made a profit of £117m during the first six months of the year.

In addition to their paid shift, Japanese workers volunteer to use their spare time to work out methods of improving quality control and productivity.

□ Japanese electronics executives claimed today that the Sanyo Electric Company, of Japan, has drawn up plans to produce colour television sets in Britain or Germany to avoid export restrictions in the European Community.

Sanyo itself confirmed that its representatives are trying to buy the Philips colour television plant at Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Under the Sanyo plan, the plant would be redesigned to produce 60,000 sets a year, giving jobs to 400 Britons.

Sanyo produced television sets in Italy from 1977 until last year when it closed its plant. Three of the company's main rivals in Japan, Matsushita Electric, the Sony Corporation, and the Toshiba Corporation, already produce television sets in Britain.

EEC faces court test on steel

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Nov 25

The West German engineering industry intendsto challenge next Januarys EEC steel price increases before the European Court.

The German Machine Manufacturers and Plant Makers Association (VDMA) is preparing a case on the grounds that the price increases have been decided by a cartel of producers and traders that is illegal under West German community law.

A spokesman for the association in Frankfurt said the steel price increases would cost far more jobs in medium-sized processing plants throughout West Germany than would be saved in the steel industry itself.

The decision to resort to legal action against the price rises, which are due to add 140 Deutsche marks a tonne over 1982, was taken this week at a meeting of the association's main board.

The VDMA is particularly concerned that steel traders have used the 100-mark a tonne price increase decided since July and the 140-mark rise scheduled for next year as a pretext for withdrawing rebates formerly offered to small and medium sized companies. It claims that these processors are now having to pay between 70 and 100 per cent more for their raw material.

Herr Tyll Necker, the association's president has written to Dr Otto Lambsdorff, the West German Economics Minister, to complain about the engineering industry's "deep seated bitterness and disquiet" over the steel price increases.

He has accused the EEC Commission and West German Government of tolerating and promoting and "arbitrary and illegal regime".

Butlins to spend £20m on Europe hotels

From Derek Harris
Phoenix, Nov 25

Butlins, part of the Rank Organisation, is planning to spend up to £20m over the next five years on starting up a hotels chain in Continental holiday centres, with Spain probably the main focus.

It is part of a drive to expand operations of the Rank hotels and holidays division beyond the flagging United Kingdom market.

Mr Bobbie Butlin, who heads the division while still running the Butlins enterprises, said here today that holidays taken in Britain are down 10 per cent this year — the third poor year in succession. "Our major growth thrust in the next five years will be more overseas", he added.

Rank's bid for the OSL (villa holidays) and Wings (tour operator) subsidiary of the Tozer Kemsley and Millbourn, expected to through by the end of the year, will make it by far the biggest United Kingdom holidays operator, with around two million holidays a year. The leading tour operator, Thomson Holidays, carried just over one million holidaymakers this year.

The Butlins hotels expansion into Europe will remain a separate operation from the Rank hotels chain which is down to seven United Kingdom and three European hotels - since loss-making units in Paris and Brussels were sold off. The Rank Organization is likely to expand mainly through taking on hotel management contracts.

Butlins already has five hotels operating successfully in Britain on a cheap and cheerful formula that brings high occupancy through a long season.

The same formula will apply in the hotels being sought abroad, with Butlins expecting to buy about two a year at around £2m each.

Union curbs plan about right, CBI leader says

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry believes that to be successful the Government's proposed legislation to curb union power must be backed by a more determined effort by employers to involve workers in the running of their firms.

Speaking in Birmingham yesterday, Sir Raymond Pennock, the CBI chariman, said new laws alone would not lead to good industrial relations. They had to be backed by moves which made it possible for employees to influence mangament decisions which affected their livelihoods.

He said the publication today of a survey of 300 CBI member companies between them employing four million people would reveal that while employee involvement was imporoving it was nothing like good enough. The CBI would be campaigning to rectify this, although it still stopped short of favouring employee seats on company boards.

Sir Raymond was clearly delighted that almost all the proposals in Mr Norman Tebbit's outline Labour Law Bill had been contained in the CBI's submissions on the government Green Paper issued in the summer.

He said Tuesday's announcement showed that Mr Tebbit was not the ogre some people were trying to paint but was behaving in a reasonable well-balanced manner as demanded by public opinion.

"We at the CBI think he has got it just about right. He has not missed out anything of importance", he added.

Sir Raymond told the annual meeting of the CBI's West Midland region that recent improvements in the economy were not sufficient to induce recovery or reduce unemployment. Recent official figures updated by the CBI's latest treands survey indicated a likely increase in productivity in manufacturing industry approaching 10 per cent this year.

But more action was needed by the Government to cut industry's costs in such areas as the national insurance surcharge, energy prices and local authority rates.

"We have the risk at the moment of being caught in a vicious circle where unemployment goes on rising and this in turn increases government expenditure. The Government in turn feels bound to take more restrictive measures which in their turn increase unemployment and so on. We have to break out of that circle some time and surely that time is now", he said.

Once again Sir Raymond urged the Government to cut its own expenditure. The CBI has recommended that government manpower should be cut by 10 per cent over the next four years, saving an estimated £3,000m.

He went on: "We are not talking about frontline staff such as the doctors, nurses armed forces or police. We are talking about the support staff whose numbers have grown like toxine in recent years. In the national health service alone there had been a 50 per cent increase in administrative and clerical staff in the past 10 years."

Communication survey

Diverse definitions of monetarism

By Tony Samstag

What is monetarism? According to the unpublished results of a short survey undertaken last month by the Department of Business Studies of the University of Edinburgh, very few people have any idea what the word means, even though the policies it describes may have the most profound effect on their lives.

The overall purpose of the survey was "to obtain information about people's perceptions of the current situation to assess whether the communication problems between politicians, economists and ordinary citizens which were highlighted –in past national sample surveys . . . are still as great . . .": in other words, to get some idea of the width and severity of what those most responsible for it are fond of calling "the communication gap."

To that end, 56 people were interviewed in 10 districts of Southampton on such subjects as inflation, unemployment and the Government's response to and responsibilities for those conditions. With the word "monetarism," the interviewer deliberately introduced a technical term or jargon word into what had been a general discussion of economic issues couched in the simplest possible language.

"Not a single respondent commented on the shift away from the questions about prices," the authors say. "They answered without hesitation even if it was just the word 'yes' or 'no'."

The question was: "Have you heard the word monetarism?" Of the 56 respondents, 19 said they had not heard the word before and only two who had heard the word gave a reasonable description of its meaning. Those two were "tight control on spending and borrowing (government Policy)" and "a narrow way of controlling economy by money forces alone".

Of those who had heard of monetarism, 17 had nothing to say about it, or nearly nothing ("just a word"); seven thought it had "something to do with Margaret Thatcher's policy", and 11 embarked upon a kind of free association that produced such bizarre definitions as "the green pound" or "bartering between countries" or "it means we are obsessed with money".

The authors say there is a communication gap between Government, politicians, economists, journalists and the general public. "The people whom we interviewed seemed to feel that these other people were living in a different world which is separate from their own. They use big words; they communicate with each other, not with us.

"The them and us divide that is so often spoken about as typical of the relationships between managers and workers seems to be just as real between policy-makers and communicators and the public."

The report ends on a finely judged note of understatement. "It would appear important to us that people who are at the receiving end of a monetarist policy should understand what it is all about."

SPAIN'S JOBLESS PROBLEM

Madrid, Nov. 24. — Spain's unemployment rate appears to be stabilizing at about 14 per cent after rising rapidly in the first eight months of this year. But officials do not see any downturn in 1982 and consider the worst may still lie ahead.

"We will continue to have unemployment as a major problem", Señor José Antonio Garcia Diez, the economy and commerce minister, said in an interview.

The growth in the jobless rate from 11.2 per cent in 1980 is being blamed mostly on the sluggish performance of the Spanish economy. In July, analysts were predicting that the gross domestic product would expand by nearly 2 per cent this year but, by early November, they had revised their forecasts to about 0.5 per cent as high inflation led to a sharp slowdown in the growth of domestic demand.

Total domestic demand, as measured by private and public consumption plus gross capital investment, is seen growing by between 0.1 per cent and 0.2 per cent this year, compared to an estimated expansion of 1.5 per cent in 1980, according to new projections by Madrid's Banco Urquijo. — AP — Dow Jones

IN BRIEF

Engineers' Tokyo trade plea

□ United Kingdom engineering industry leaders in Tokyo yesterday urged Japan to redress its rising trade imbalance in this sector with Britain and other European nations, Mr A. F. Frodsham, director-general of the Engineering Employers Federation, said.

The British request was made at a one-day meeting between the federation and the Japan Machinery Exporters Association, which discussed the promotion of cooperation between Japanese and United Kingdom companies on big projects in third-country markets.

Mr Frodsham said the rising imbalance of the trade in engineering products had increased political pressures for protectionism in many western countries.

Dutch trade surplus

□ Dutch visible trade showed a provisional, non-seasonally adjusted surplus of 986 million guilders (about £193m) in September, compared with a downward revised 372 million deficit in August.

Docks dispute

□ Stevedoring supervisors walked off Sydney wharves yesterday in a dispute over a A$40 a week pay claim. The men were expected back at work today. Similar action could follow this week in Melbourne, Adelaide, Fremantle and Brisbane, a union spokesman said.

Cable projects

□ Some 30 Arab, African and Mediterranean countries are discussing in Tunis two submarine cable projects as part of a general study of Arab world telecommunications. One cable would go from the Gulf across the Indian Ocean, the other from Morocco to the American continent.

Third World credit

□ Credit released by the International Monetary Fund for the Third World in the first 10 months of this year, to help them to meet payments problems, came to $9,000m (about £4,866m) against $4,700m a year earlier.

Steel talks continue

□ Leaders of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation decided today to continue talks with the British Steel Corporation on job cuts. British Steel wants a further 20,000 jobs to go, bringing the total workforce down to 90,000. In addition it wants negotiations for the cuts to take place at local level, to which the union is vigorously opposed.

Ship registry office

□ Nigeria is to open a shipping registry office in London from January 1 for companies wishing to register their vessels under the Nigerian flag.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	15 %
Barclays	15 %
BCCI	15 %
Consolidated Crds	15½%
C. Hoare & Co	*15 %
Lloyds Bank	15 %
Midland Bank	15 %
Nat Westminster	15 %
TSB	15 %
Williams and Glyn's	15 %

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 13%, up to £50,000 13¼%, over £50,000 14%.

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
114	100	ABI Hldgs 10% CULS	114	—	10.0	8.8	—	—
76	39	Airsprung Group	67	—	4.7	7.0	10.6	14.7
52	21	Armitage & Rhodes	43	—	4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1
200	92½	Bardon Hill	192	—	9.7	5.1	9.3	11.4
104	88	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7	8.9
126	88	Frank Horsell	122	—	6.4	5.2	11.0	26.5
110	39	Frederick Parker	59	—	1.7	2.9	25.7	—
110	47	George Blair	47	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	99	—	7.3	7.4	7.1	10.8
113	59	Jackson Group	98	—	7.0	7.1	3.1	7.0
130	103	James Burrough	110	—	8.7	7.9	8.0	10.1
334	244	Robert Jenkins	282	—	31.3	11.1	3.9	10.0
59	50	Scruttons "A"	55	—	5.3	9.6	8.5	7.9
224	177	Torday Limited	177	—	15.1	8.5	6.8	11.7
23	8	Twinlock Ord	14	—	—	—	—	—
90	68	Twinlock 15% ULS	72xi	—	15.0	20.8	—	—
56	33	Unilock Holdings	33	—	3.0	9.1	5.9	10.0
103	81	Walter Alexander	84	—	6.4	7.6	5.5	9.8
263	181	W. S. Yeates	218	—	13.1	6.0	4.1	8.4

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Hanson's options with Berec

Sir James Hanson's arguments that Berec's profits would be illuminated under his management team appear less than convincing to the battery group's shareholders, at least at the current offer price. More precisely, Hanson's 105p a share offer compares with Thomas Tilling's offer with a paper value, at last night's price, of 135p. Hard-nosed fund managers, holding around 40 per cent of the Berec equity will decide the fate ot this bid on commercial grounds and without sentiment. And at present with Berec's price at 129p, there is no sign of another contender making a late appearance.

So, the next move lies with Hanson, which owns 15.96 per cent of the Berec votes, bought for around 105p a share. The options are these: to sell out at the market price for a cash profit of about £2.6m; to accept Tilling's offer for a paper profit of £3.15m; stay as a minority shareholder (hardly likely); or increase its own offer.

Hanson's decision will be made within a fortnight and almost certainly before December 10, Tilling's first closing date which, theoretically, could give it control. If Sir James chooses to withdraw, it would be his fourth unsuccessful takeover bid this year. But he could end up with the tag as the United Kingdom's most profitable loser.

● *The gilt edged market turned round sharply yesterday afternoon on the back of the United States bond market revival and the latest prime rate cuts. Hardly surprisingly, that was enough to set people thinking how nice a small cut in base rates would be ahead of the Crosby by-election. The seven day interbank rate is expected to open below 15½ per cent this morning, removing, at least temporarily, the danger of round-tripping. Whether that will prove temptation enough for the banks remains to be seen.*

B P B Industries

Way above expectations

In June, new BPB Industries chairman, Mr Geoffrey Flood, suggested there was a reasonable hope of being able at least to maintain last year's profit levels — £42.1m pretax. In fact, for the six months to last September the group has disclosed pretax profits a remarkable £9m higher at £29.8m and the market is now looking for around £58m for the full year to next March.

Rather surprising by, perhaps, the key to BPB's improved fortunes lies in its United Kingdom building materials activities where pre-interest profits are up £4m to £17.1m on a £6.6m sales increase to £103m. Despite the state of the building industry generally, plasterboard sales are up, mainly on the back of the growth in timber framed housing and the continuing demand for repairs and remodelling. For the rest it is a tale of greater efficiency, the concentration of production at larger plants and the closure of the smaller ones, two prices increases and a slimming of the workforce in the past two years.

Elsewhere, the improvements have been less dramatic but useful nonetheless. Paper and packaging in the UK benefited from new plants coming on stream, while overseas, Canada returned to profit and there were small gains in France and Ireland. Up 24p to 306p yesterday, the shares have been outperforming the market recently. The historic yield is just over 4 per cent.

HALF YEAR TO SEPTEMBER 30

	1981	1980
Sales	207	184
Trading profits		
Building materials:		
U.K.	17.1	13.1
Canada	1.2	−0.4
France	5.6	4.6
Ireland	1.3	0.9
Paper & Packaging:		
U.K.	3.3	2.1
Overseas	1.4	0.5
	29.8	20.7
Interest	−2.6	−2.1
Associates	2.5	2.2
Pre-tax profit	29.8	20.8

Leasing

Weak reply from the ELA

The Equipment Leasing Association will have to be more persuasive if it is to win big adjustments to the Accounting Standards Committee's exposure draft on leasing. The drawn-out tussle between the two took a significant turn yesterday with an ELA assertion that the main issue dividing the parties was not, as had previously been thought, whether or not to show leasing arrangements on the face of the balance sheet, but the treatment of regional development grants. The ELA is worried about the accountants' suggestion that RDGs be dealt with below the line. On individual transactions this might well involve presenting a pretax loss, although the post-tax profit would of course be identical.

But it is surely overstating its case by warning that this relatively minor issue will thwart leasing's stimulus to capital investment. Besides, according to the ASC, the issue of RDGs has only briefly been touched upon in discussions between the two parties. Both should be prepared to sit down and find a compromise, though the ELA has been provocative in demanding that the present exposure draft should be withdrawn until its points have been more fully explored. The point of an exposure draft after all is that it throws open the ASC's proposals to public debate.

One sign of an eventual settlement is the apparent relaxation of the ELA's no surrender attitude on capitalization of leases. One explanation is that there is a difference of opinion on capitalization inside the association but a more united front over RDGs. As for the ASC, it's exposure draft on leasing specifically invited firm evidence that its proposals would have detrimental economic effects. There is nothing substantive in the ELA's submissions to answer this challenge.

RHM

Second half improvement

Ranks Hovis McDougall has duly delivered full-year pretax profits in line with the £45m estimate it made earlier this month after "dawn-raiding" British Sugar in retaliation for British Sugar's own earlier raid in the opposite direction. At the half-way stage in May, reaching profits of £40m for the year had looked a struggle.

Closure costs of £7m have been taken into the extraordinaries, which altogether show a £1.2m credit. RHM prefers to stress a good second half. The grocery, packaged cakes and overseas divisions had what it calls "an excellent" second six months. Overseas earnings accounted for 30 per cent of total profits against 22 per cent the previous year, helped by the weaker pound.

RHM has also slashed its borrowings. The sale of its old London head office building and of Wessex Finance, a hire purchase company, has enabled borrowings to be reduced to around £100m from £142m. Interest charges for the year were also reduced, to £14.6m from £20.9m. While the benefits from this have shown through on these latest figures, it was long expected that they would. The shares gained just a ½p to 64½. Meanwhile, the group is "keeping mum" over its informal discussions with BSC.

The number of people out of work in November was 2,954,000. One in four of the unemployed have been out of work for more than a year. By 1982 the proportion will have risen to one in three. Frances Williams examines the plight of this group.



No job and hope ebbing away. Steve Benbow/Network

When unemployment is a way of life

By the autumn of 1982, more than a million people will have been out of work for at least a year, according to unpublished forecasts by the Manpower Services Commission. Only a few months ago, the commission was predicting that the numbers of long-term unemployed would not top a million until more than a year later, at the end of 1983.

The rate at which their number is increasing has accelerated steeply in the past 12 months or so. The Department of Employment Gazette, published today, will show that last month nearly three quarters of a million people had been on the unemployment register for more than a year, double the number in October, 1980.

This represents an increase of 120,000 from July, compared with a rise of 110,000 in the previous three months, and 60,000 in the three months before that. The long-term unemployed now make up one in four of all those out of work. Next year, they will account for one in three.

These chilling figures, signifying much human misery, are viewed with growing concern within the commission and by unions and unemployment pressure groups. But so far the Government shows no sign of evolving any coherent strategy to meet the needs of the long term unemployed.

Almost all Whitehall's cash and imagination are going into plans to alleviate youth unemployment. Of the £700m employment package announced by the Prime Minister in July, three-quarters is to go on that.

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Employment Secretary, intends shortly to announce the commitment of more than £1,000m to launch a comprehensive education and training programme for all youngsters who would otherwise be on the dole, a commitment which some fear could jeopardise other departmental employment measures such as the temporary short time working compensation scheme. Last month, the scheme kept 320,000 people on short-time as a means of avoiding redundancies.

During the debate on the Queen's Speech this month, Mr Tebbit said unequivocally: "Our first priority is centred on the young, since it is there that the problem is at its worst."

This year, the Manpower Services Commission is spending £400m on special employment measures catering for 550,000 youngsters under 18, mostly on the Youth Opportunities Programme, including almost all those out of work for more than six months. By contrast, £100m is being spent on the community enterprise programme to provide temporary jobs for 35,000 to 40,000 adults.

Misguided

The wholesale diversion of resources into employment measures for school-leavers and other youngsters is understandable, but surely misguided. It implies that unemployment is subsequently less of a problem. Yet people under 25 are the fastest growing group of the long-term unemployed.

By this summer, their numbers had risen two and a half times in only a year, compared with a rise of 75 per cent for all age groups, and they made up one in four of those out of work for more than 12 months. In the summer of 1980, the proportion was only one in six.

It remains true, however, that long-term unemployment falls hardest on the middle-aged and those nearing retirement.

In July, 40 per cent of the unemployed over-60s and 35 per cent of those aged 55 to 59 had been jobless for a year or more, compared with 20 per cent of the 20-25 age group.

The official figures tend, however, to understate the numbers facing prolonged spells on the dole. As Chris Pond, director of the Low Pay Unit, points out, many young people experience continual periods of unemployment punctuated by brief spells in work or out of the recorded labour force altogether.

Similarly, people who fall sick while on the dole go off the register while they are claiming sickness benefit, and when they recover are recorded as beginning a new period of unemployment.

Moreover, increasing numbers of workers — probably more than a million — are just not bothering to register as unemployed any more, especially if they do not qualify for unemployment benefit.

Commission forecasts show that the numbers of those out of work for long periods will continue to increase for some time after the unemployment total stabilises. Most forecasters expect the jobless peak to be reached some time in 1982 or 1983 at between 3 million and 3½ million.

Long-term unemployment is thus a long-term problem. The implications are appalling.

Unemployment is the most rapidly growing cause of family poverty. The Government, itself, has made things worse by cutting the real value of benefits, a course of action which the Treasury apparently wishes to continue.

The concentration in the middle age groups of heads of households with dependent wives and three or more children, whose earning capacity may be no more than their entitlement to benefit, means children are being brought up in homes where no one works.

Finally, there is mounting evidence that the experience of unemployment makes people more vulnerable to physical and mental illness.

What then is to be done? Proposals fall roughly into these categories — taking people out of the labour force altogether, either temporarily through education and training, or permanently through early retirement; special job creation measures such as the community enterprise programme; inducements to employers to take on more people, with for example, job subsidies; and more general reflation of the ecomomy, perhaps with a particular emphasis on labour-intensive public investment projects.

The Manpower Services Commission, not unnaturally, is keen on training and special measures. An unpublished review of its special programmes explained why.

"Many of the long-term unemployed (especially those aged 25-44 years) have family responsibilities. Many suffer from relatively poor health. Many have reached a stage of depression, apathy and acceptance of the state of unemployment. Few have skills. Most left school at the minimum school-leaving age and have never had any training.

Adult training

"Thus, for very many of the long-term unemployed, policies or programmes aimed at getting them into normal employment in the short term are almost certainly unlikely to be successful."

But, so far, the Government has not approved any new measures on adult training or a big expansion of the community enterprise programme.

Mrs Thatcher's only concessions in July to the long-term unemployed were an extra £8m for 1982-83 to encourage voluntary work and £20m to pay the higher rate of supplementary benefit to people over 60 out of work for more than a year and willing to declare themselves retired (affecting perhaps 45,000 people by the end of March 1982).

In addition, the qualifying age for the job release scheme is being lowered from 64 to 62, enabling 47,000 extra people to retire early with a cash allowance to make way for someone on the dole. This will cost £150m next year.

The traditional route to reduce unemployment, and the only course capable of generating the huge number of jobs needed to cut unemployment substantially, is by reflating the economy.

But this Government has steadfastly refused to contemplate deliberate reflation while price inflation remains high and any attempt to reduce unemployment rapidly through reflation would carry high inflation risks.

Calculations undertaken by Gavyn Davies of stockbroker Simon and Coates on the impact of Sir Ian Gilmour's proposed economic strategy, imply that each person taken off the unemployment register in 1983 would cost £14,000 through not implementing planned public spending cuts, £11,000 by the abolition of the employers' national insurance surcharge, or £8,000 by additional public investment.

"Best buys" in these terms are special employment measures, costing directly about £3,000 for each person. In the Gilmour package these measures comprise a big expansion of job creation programmes and the introduction of a job subsidy scheme along the lines put forward by Professor Richard Layard and also taken up by the Social Democrats. This would pay a £70-a-week subsidy to employers to take on additional workers unemployed for at least six months, £70 a week then being the approximate cost to the government of keeping such a person on the dole. Today's cost is closer to £90 a week.

Mr Roy Jenkins, campaigning in Warrington in July, claimed that the job subsidy scheme could create 250,000 jobs at a cost of £400m. Taking into account that some jobs will go to people not on the unemployment register, this would produce a drop in unemployment of about 150,000.

There are limits to the number of jobs that can be created through special employment schemes, and such schemes alone would not be enough to produce a big reduction in unemployment. Their supreme advantage is that they can be targeted at people who need help most.

Even the Government's self-imposed economic constraints ought not to blind it to some simple arithmetical truths. It costs the Exchequer £4,500 a year for every person out of work, according to a forthcoming study by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

Thousands unemployed for more than a year

600 · 500 · 400 · 300 · 200 · 100

Total all ages · 55 and over · 25-54 · Under 25

1979 · 1980 · 1981

A J O J A J O J A J

The base line represents calendar quarters from April 1979 to July 1981.

Business Diary: A banker true to type?

The Italian business world is trying to figure out the meaning of the entry of Carlo de Benedetti of Olivetti into Banco Ambrosiano, which follows the announcement that he has bought a 2 per cent shareholding for about £22m and been made vice-chairman.

"Capitalism is rich in surprises" was the comment of Nino Andreatta, the treasury minister. De Benedetti pushed his way in, not in a dawn raid, but in days of secret negotiations with the chairman, Roberto Calvi.

There could not be two more different men at the head of the second biggest private bank in the country. Calvi is on bail pending appeal against a four-year prison sentence and a £7.4m fine for currency violations.

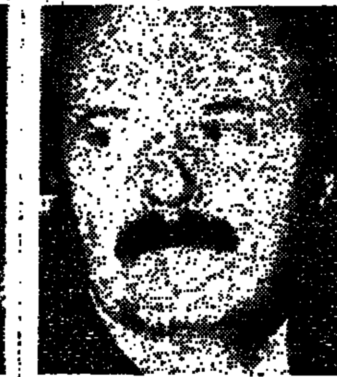
His name is on the list of the reported members of the secret P2 Masonic Lodge. The Italian press links him with the more obscure side of Vatican finances. Under him, Banco Ambrosiano has expanded, but its exact ownership is not known.

On the other hand de Benedetti, who is 47 and Torinese, has a lay background — he once said he votes for the Republicans, though he is not a party member — and is outspoken in criticizing the methods of the Christian Democrats and their friends.

He comes with a reputation for modern, open management methods, which have enabled him to bring Olivetti round since he joined it three years ago. He says, incidentally, that he is not leaving Olivetti, and will still give most of his time to it.



Olivetti's Carlo de Benedetti.



Ambrosiano's Roberto Calvi

He is not the sort of person who likes to share command. He left Fiat as joint managing director after only four months in 1976, because he did not get on with the Agnellis. Few believe that the new tandem at Banco Ambrosiano will last long.

Then there is the question of the 40 per cent shareholding in the Rizzoli-Corriere Della Sera group in the hands of Banco Ambrosiano's subsidiary, La Centrale. The Bank of Italy would like La Centrale to get rid of it. In recent weeks de Benedetti has been reported as manoeuvering to take a stake in the ailing newspaper and publishing group. Is this an objective behind his entry into Banco Ambrosiano?

Trusting souls

The appointment of four women advisers on consumer affairs to the Unit Trust Association (UTA) shows where the industry thinks expansion lies.

Ailsa Stanley, Dodo Harris, Baroness Phillips of Fulham and Patricia Lambert, represent a huge range of consumer interest groups, many with predominantly female membership.

Statistics reveal that women own a far greater proportion of wealth than men, quite simply because they live longer and tend to inherit from their husbands. And the appointment of the four women could be seen as an attempt to get an inside track on what might persuade the ladies to invest in unit trusts. Mark St. Giles, chairman of the UTA, says that it hoped the ladies would be able to reveal "what we are doing right, and what we are doing wrong so far as the customers are concerned".

St. Giles rejects the suggestion that having been appointed by the industry, the unpaid panel would not be as fierce as it should in representing customers by citing their representation of several dozen diverse committees

George and son

As I reported recently, Michael Montagu ran out of inspiration when in suggesting new names for England's airports he came to Liverpool's Speke and Manchester's Ringway.

Today I pass on to Montagu, chairman of the English Tourist Board, a suggestion from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IME) that Liverpool be named after George Stephenson and Manchester after his own son Robert.

The IME's Griffith Vaughan Williams says his reason, apart from the Stephensons having been the institution's first two presidents, is that it was they who linked the two cities together in 1830 with the world's first passenger steam railway. And 1981 is the bicentenary of George's birth.

My objection, apart from the fact people would mix up two airports both called Stephenson, is that I and many other Liverpudlians wonder whether Manchester is worth being linked to.

Wallchart

ACCORDING TO OUR PERSONNEL DIRECTOR....

...THE NUCLEAR POWER DEBATE SHOULD BE POSTPONED...

...UNTIL WE'VE SORTED OUT THE PROBLEMS OF MANPOWER....

One British industry that shows no lack of enterprise is thieving. Burglars who broke into a pub near me were undeterred by the presence of the pub dog, a long-haired German Shepherd. They not only took about £500 from the slot machines — they took the dog too. The pub is called The Greyhound.

Ross Davies

Barker & Dobson recovers

By Margareta Pagano

Barker & Dobson, the sweetmaker, announced yesterday that the five years spent reorganizing its confectionery business have paid off.

In the six months to October the group swung back to profits before tax of £332,000, compared with last time's loss of £140,000. The group's shares were unchanged at 6½p on the news.

For the first time in many years there has been an increase in sales of £2.4m to £19.9m. This, together with improved margins, is responsible for the higher profits.

Trading profit was more than doubled at £668,000, but this was knocked back to £298,000 by central expenses and interest charges. Some £34,000 from an associated company pushed up pretax profits.

In July, Mr Ronald Aitken, the chairman, forecast improved sales. Much of this has come from Barker's new product range and the recently introduced stick-pack range of confectionery.

Trading is still difficult with volume affected by fierce price cutting in the trade. Mr Aitken adds that the group is taking advantage of its trade names and trademarks both at home and abroad. A licence for one of its trade names, Bensons, to trade overseas has recently been completed and others are being negotiated. "We are now satisfied that a sound base has been established," Mr Aitken says, but he is not forecasting for the full year.

Both sides of the business improved. Profits from confectionery moved up to £313,000 from £84,000. From its retail division profits rose to £355,000 against £224,000.

Suffolk radio groups plan merger

By Our Financial Staff

Investors are being offered shares in a new company, Suffolk Group Radio, which has been created to merge the interests of two East Anglian radio stations, Radio Orwell and Saxon Radio.

The deal, which involves SGR making offers to shareholders of Radio Orwell, is being put together by Mr Francis Madden, a Norwich merchant banker and director of East Anglian Securities. SGR will also acquire the shares of Saxon Radio, which was set up in December last year and gained its IBA franchise in August.

The SGR prospectus, published yesterday, invites subscriptions for 144,000 £1 ordinary shares and 48,000 £1 preference shares of £1 at the price of £1 per share. Undertakings have already been received for 72.5 per cent of the issue.

SGR's offer to Radio Orwell shareholders is 23 SGR £1 shares for every 20 ordinary Orwell shares, and 23 SGR; cumulative redeemable preference shares for 20 Orwell 7 per cent preference shares.

The proceeds of the issue—which will raise £162,000—will finance the new commercial radio station for Saxon Radio based in Bury St Edmunds. Suffolk Radio is not planning a share quotation but will continue to trade under Rule 163 (2) as did Radio Orwell which has been operating the independent local radio station based in Ipswich for six years.

The scheme has met with IBA approval and the idea behind it is to provide both stations with common news gathering, marketing and financial services.

Bath and Portland buys more Braham

By Peter Wainwright

Bath and Portland Group, the construction and civil engineer recovering strongly from an ill-fated £160m contract to build roads in Iran, is once again expanding. Yesterday, through Cazenove, the stockbroker, it bought 1.44m shares in Braham Millar, a maker of quarrying plant which is already under siege from Fieldwood, a private investment group. Earlier this month Fieldwood raised its offer from 24p to a "final" 30p cash. Braham does not want it.

Bath has bought its Braham shares at 33p apiece. It now owns 1.89m shares, or 14.9 per cent of the total. Bath plans a tender offer for up to 1.89m shares for up to 33p apiece and if this succeeds, its stake, including shares held by the B and P pension fund, will rise to 29.9 per cent. Braham welcomes the investment, and if the Fieldwood offer lapses, two B and P men will join the Braham board.

B and P will find the £1m cash involved from its own resources.

The last balance sheet was almost clear of borrowings, thanks to a £2.7m sale of shares to LTA, a South African company in the Anglo American group. LTA now has just over a fifth of Bath's equity.



Sir Kenneth Selby, chairman of Bath and Portland Group.

Sir Kenneth Selby, chairman of Bath and Portland, said that with Iran out of the way the group was expanding just as it did before.

Yesterday Bath and Portland's shares rose 3p to 66p. Those in Braham added 5p to 31½p.

Sharp rise in C E Heath profit

By Our Financial Staff

Operating profit before tax of C. E. Heath, the London-based insurance broking group, rose sharply in the six months to last September from £5.1m to £7.4m. At the attributable level profits were £1m higher at £4.1m with earnings per share coming out at 13.2p against 9.8p. The dividend is being increased by 16 per cent to 3.6p a share compared with 3.1p.

The insurance broking operations produced a 19 per cent increase in income at £11.3m. Mr Frank Holland, chairman, said: "The changes in the value of sterling against other currencies in the past few months have produced currency gains of approximately £900,000, but, even so, this still indicates a good improvement in our trading position."

The group is managing to contain cost increases on this side of its operations, and although expenses rose slightly from £8.3m to £9.1m the expense ratio fell from 87.8 per cent to 81.2 per cent.

On the underwriting side fees and commissions earned in the first half of the year were £4m against £4.3m. Profits from overseas underwriting were £437,000 compared with £506,000 in the first half of the previous year.

Mr Holland added: "No account has been taken in these figures of the likely contribution from our Lloyd's underwriting operations, which, of course, is our usual practice. However, the prospects are that at the end of the year the income from this source will be less than in 1980-81."

Investment income jumped from £929,000 to £2.3m thanks to high interest rates in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Hambros raises dividend

Hambros, the merchant banking and life assurance group, has made slightly lower profits in the half-year to September 30, but the group is raising the half-year dividends on the £2 and 5p shares by 17.3 per cent to 21.8p gross and 2.18p gross respectively. The shares fell 2p to 156p yesterday.

Hambros said banking profits were broadly unchanged while both Hambro Life and Berkeley Hambro Property increased their dividends.

Equipu plans placing and USM quotation

Equipu, a Bristol-based office supplies group, is raising £185,000 to finance expansion plans through a privately placed share issue. It is also seeking a quotation on the Unlisted Securities Market.

The company has issued 596,568 new ordinary shares at 80p each. A further 403,432 shares being sold by existing shareholders are included in the placement, which accounts for 18 per cent of the company's enlarged share capital. After the placement, Equipu directors will hold a 70 per cent equity stake.

Dealings in the shares are expected to start next Tuesday. On Monday, dealings will begin on the Unlisted Securities Market in Saxon Oil, the British partner with Conoco and Tricentrol in four North Sea oil exploration and production licences.

Tomatin loan

A 3m long-term loan for Tomatin Distillers, the whisky group that recently dislosed interim losses of more than £1.1m, is being put up by Finance Corporation for Industry.

The loan, which carries an option for FCI to subscribe for a 10 per cent share stake, is to be used by Tomatin to replace some of the company's short-term borrowings.

Tomatin's recent six-months' results showed a pretax loss of £1.11m and the directors said yesterday that trading conditions remained difficult.

Transparent Paper

In spite of a small rise in turnover, from £18.04m to £18.63m, Transparent Paper slumped into a pretax loss of £956,000 in the half year to October 3, compared with a pretax profit of £141,000 last time. For the whole of 1980-81, the group made a pretax profit of £146,000.

Amos Hinton jumps

In the 28 weeks to September 19, pretax profits of Amos Hinton and Sons climbed to £1.08m—more than double the £422,000 made in the first half of 1980-81 and not far short of that year's total profit of £1.3m. Sales were up from £45.6m to £51.9m. The interim payment is boosted from 2.57p to 3.42p gross.

Barratt optimistic

Mr Laurie A. Barratt, chairman of Barratt Developments, told the annual meeting that sales of the group's new houses had run at record levels in the first 21 weeks of the financial year, and that the advance sales position today was over 20 per cent up on last year in terms of units. He was not at all depressed with the economy, which he felt had bottomed out and was now beginning to rise.

Century Oils up 33 pc

Mainly because of Century Oils' expanding overseas activities, sales rose by 31 per cent to £32.1m in the half-year to September 30. Pretax profits jumped by 33 per cent to £2.07m. Sales of the group's overseas companies now account for 44 per cent of the total in spite of the effects of miners' strikes in both the United States and Australia.

The interim payment, gross, is going up from 1.14p to 1.42p, but this is to reduce the disparity between the interim and final payments and should not be taken as an indication of the level of the final dividend.

General Tire

Dr. H Khazan, the chairman of General Tire and Rubber (South Africa), has written to the shareholders of Hallite Holdings to say that the offer of 200p a share is final and will not be increased. He calls Hallite's forecast profits of not less than £850,000 for 1981-82 disappointing and says they are substantially below those achieved in 1978 (when the share price reached a peak of 168p) and so confirms the view that General Tire's cash offer of 200p is generous.

Business appointments

Dr Jack Birks to head Charterhouse Petroleum

Dr Jack Birks is to become chairman of Charterhouse Petroleum when he retires as a managing director of British Petroleum next year. He will succeed Mr Malcolm Wells, who will be retiring from the board.

Mr Oliver Stocken, an executive director of Barclays Merchant Bank, is being seconded to Barclays Bank International and made a director and general manager of its Australian merchant bank, Barclays Australia, from February 1. He will remain a director of Barclays Merchant Bank. Mr Jonathan Scott, an executive director of Barclays Merchant Bank, will assume Mr Stoken's duties as head of the corporate advice division.

Mr Richard Searby has succeeded Sir Norman Young as chairman of News Corporation. Mr H. M. Rich becomes deputy chairman, Sir James Cruthers and Mr B. Matthews have become directors.

Mr Norman Leyland, bursar of Brasenose College, Oxford has joined the board of Montagu Boston Investment Trust.

Miss Sonia Elkin, director for smaller firms at the Confederation of British Industry, is to serve as a member of the Manpower Services Commission. She replaces Mr Michael Bury, the CBI's director of education, training and technology. Miss Elkin has been the CBI's director for Smaller Firms since March 1979. Before that she was deputy director of the Regional and Small Firms Department.

Mr Charles Sprott has become divisional managing director of the newly formed industries division of Rush & Tomkins Group. He will also be managing director of each of the divisional companies. Miss Denise Tomlinson becomes the industries division's director of technical services and remains a director of BEWT (Water Engineers). BEWT becomes an industries divisional company.

Miss Josephine E. Prevost, joint managing director of Chemical Asia, has been made a director of Chemical Bank International the merchant banking arm of Chemical Bank. Mr Lawrence de V. Wragg becomes an executive director and Mr Michael Cooper an assistant director of Chemical Bank International.

Mr Peter Tudball is now managing director of the Graig Shipping Company.

Mr F. R. Hall has become managing director of Zurich Life, Mr C. Redman general manager and actuary, and Mr B. Hopper assistant general manager.

MARKET REPORTS

Veba down 19.5 pc for nine months

Net earnings of Veba, the energy and chemical group and West Germany's largest company in terms of sales, declined by 19.5 per cent to a preliminary DM214m. (£49.8m) in the first three quarters of 1981.

Veba reported that the lower profit came despite a 21.6 per cent rise in the group's external turnover to DM36,900m in the same nine-month span. The company said that price rises accounted for a substantial portion of the increase in overall sales.

Income was under pressure so far this year, the group said, but the equally burdensome increases in raw material and energy costs since January abated near the end of the third quarter.

International

Mannesmann ahead

Mannesmann, the West German steel, pipe, and heavy industrial group, reports that its net earnings in the first nine months of 1981 improved on last year's but did not give precise figures.

Its pipemaking operations and trading unit made a significant improvement, while earnings of the group's Brazilian subsidiaries and the industrial installations division were unchanged.

Brown Boveri

Herr Franz Luterbacher, chairman of Brown Boveri, the Swiss industrial and farm equipment group, said yesterday it remained too early to forecast the 1981 dividend. The company was facing extraordinary depreciations on this year's business, he said, but the extent was not yet known.

Martin-Black

Martin-Black, which is based at Coathridge, Scotland, has agreed, subject to shareholders' approval, to sell its Canadian offshoot, Martin-Black Inc, to Wire Rope Industries, a Canadian company owned by Noranda Mines. M-B Inc

Stock markets

Strong rally after cut in US prime rates

Interest rates remained the focal point of activity in the market yesterday with news of the latest reduction in US prime rates resulting in a strong rally after hours.

Earlier, prices had continued to drift through lack of interest as investors, uncertain of the next move, concentrated on specialist situations. Further losses were quickly apparent in gilts as the tight conditions in the money market, which are preventing any easing of domestic rates, continued their hold. The announcement last week of three mini taps totalling £750m was also a factor as investors decided to take profits.

So by midday longs were displaying falls of up to £¼ and shorts up to £¼. The news of a ½ per cent reduction in prime rates to 15½ per cent and the subsequent rally in the bond market saw a smart about turn. Longs recovered to close £¼ up on the day with shorts a similar amount up in thin trade.

Equities followed suit after a fairly mundane morning with interest concentrated on bid situations. But the news from New York saw the *FT* Index close 2.2 up at 520.0 after being 5.5 down at 11 am.

Leading industrials again presented a mixed picture. Bowater maintained its strong after-hours rally from Monday night by rising a further 1p to 208p—making a 4p rise in two days on speculative interest. Beecham was up 1p to 225p, while Lucas Industries rose 3p to 211p after a small line of 100,000 shares changed hands at the market level.

Hanson Trust surprised most of the market by extending its deadline for acceptances of the offer for Berec by three weeks to December 14. This move is designed to leave most of its options open until Hanson can assess the acceptances for the Thomas Tilling bid. At present Hanson holds 16.9 per cent of Berec with a further 1.25 per cent guaranteed. Shares of Berec slipped 1p to 129p, after 126p, with Hanson adding 2p to 278p. But Thomas Tilling, whose share offer runs out on December 10, slipped 2p to 135p.

Brokers Cazenove were bidding 33p a share for 1.8m shares in Braham Millar in a teatime raid on behalf of Bath & Portland. B & P currently holds 14.9 per cent of the equity in Braham Millar and this latest purchase extends its holdings to 29.9 per cent. Shares of B & P rose 3p to 66p.

English China Clays rose 2p to 150p, on hopes of a bid from Consolidated Gold Fields, which, according to some market sources, may also make a dawn raid on Steetley, 6p higher at 174p.

RTZ held steady at 444p after its reecnt offer for Thos W Ward, 2p dearer at 188p, while Tunnel Holdings 'B', in which Wards holds 42 per cent, rose 10p to 500p ahead of figures tomorrow.

NCC Energy rose 5p to 98p on the intervention of Australian Mr Alan Bond over the merger with Simplicity Patterns, while bid hopes rubbed off on Energy Capital, boosting the shares 5p to 60p.

Geers Gross celebrated a £2m contract from BP with a 10p rise at 118p. European Ferries, awaiting the outcome of the Monopolies report in the cross Channel ferry operations, hardened 2½p to 68½p.

Better than expected trading news lifted BPB Ind 24p to 306p, Century Oils, 3p to 87p, Amos Hinton 6p to 246p and Mansfield Brewery 18p to 278p. Still reflecting recent profits news, Vinten rose 4p to 188p and Concentric 5p to 42p.

Equity turnover on November 23 was £134.076m (13,732 bargains). *Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were*: BPB Ind, CE Heath, Braham Millar Berec Group Plessey, Racal, GEC, BP and British Aerospace.

Traded options: Of 1346 contracts, puts made up 387. Interest was led by GEC on 236 and Shell on 118.

Traditional options: saw calls in Royal Bank of Scotland on 20p, ICL on 6½p and Comtech on 2p, while a put was arranged in Royal Bank of Scotland on 33p and a double in Town & City on 3½p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Barker & Dobson (I)	19.9(17.4)	0.298(0.14†)	0.31(0.15)	—(—)	—	—(—)
B P B Inds. (I)	206(183)	29.8(20.8)	20.8(16.6)	4.5(4)	22/1	—(9.0)
Cmbn & Gn. Secs. (*)	—(—)	0.32(0.36)	—(—)	3.7(3.7)	21/12	5.7(5.5)
Century Oils (I)	32.08(24.48)	2.07(1.55)	5.76(5.46)	1.0(0.8)	6/1	—(2.8)
C. E. Heath (I)	—(—)	7.4(5.1)	13.2(9.8)	3.6(3.1)	5/1	—(10.5)
Amos Hinton (I)	51.9(45.57)	1.08(0.422)	13.8(6.25)	2.4(1.8)	12/1	—(6.0)
Mansfield Brewery (I)	26.9(15.7)	4.04(2.72)	—(—)	1.5(1.07)	5/1	—(4.2)
Old Swan Hotel (I)	0.79(0.68)	0.09(0.08)	1.54(1.33)	0.4(0.4)	5/1	—(0.8)
Parkland Textile (I)	17.1(16.5)	0.13(0.026)	0.9(1.0†)	1.6(1.6)	15/1	—(3.7)
Ranks Hovis (F)	1,573(1,456)	45.2(32.02)	11.2(7.1)	2.33(—)	29/1	3.8(3.6)
Transparent Paper (I)	18.6(18.04)	0.95†(0.14)	—(1.94)	—(—)	—	—(0.1)
R. Kelvin Watson (I)	3.01(2.71)	0.21(0.2)	—(—)	1.3(1.3)	1/2	—(3.3)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * Second interim in lieu of final dividend; † Loss.

Commodities

COPPER was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash bars, £837.50-38.50 a metric ton; high-grade three months, £865-65.50. Sales: 6,850 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £833-35; three months, £861-62. Sales: nil tonnes. Morning.—Cash bars, £837.50-38.50; high-grade three months, £866-67. Settlement, 838.60. Sales, 11,675 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £836-36.50; three months, £862-63. Settlement, £836.50. Sales, 650 tonnes.

TIN was steady. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £8,332-35 a tonne; three months, £8,650-51. Sales, 2,270 tonnes. High grade, cash, £8,332-35; three months, £8,650-51. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning. — Standard cash, £8,332-35; three months, £8,650-51. Settlement, £8,335. Sales, 1,810 tonnes. High grade, cash: £8,332-35; three months, £8,650-51. Settlement, £8,335. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, SM35.62 a picul.

LEAD was very steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £332.50-35.00 per tonne; three months, £346.50-47.00. Sales, 2,700 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £328-29; three months, £340.50-41.00. Settlement, £329. Sales, 11,900 tonnes.

ZINC was steadier. Afternoon.—Cash, £444-44.50 per tonne; three months, £457-57.50. Sales, 2,525 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £441-41.50; three months, £451-55. Settlement, £441.50. Sales, 4,675 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £200.95 ($385) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 424.40p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 810.80); three months, 438.45p (835.30c); six months, 452.70p (859.20c); one year, 485.10p (916c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 423.5-24.5p; three months, 438.5-39.0p. Sales, 32 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 424.8-25.3p; three months, 439-39.2p. Settlement, 425.2p. Sales, 189 lots.

ALUMINIUM was firm.—Afternoon.—Cash, £560-60.50 per tonne; three months, £574-74.50. Sales, 5,175 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £546-47; three months, £5.70-70.50. Settlement, £547. Sales, 5,050 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,720-25 per tonne; three months, £2,725-28. Sales, 234 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,755-65; three months, £2,735-46. Settlement, £2,765. Sales, 612 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo).—Dec, 53.60-56.00; Jan, 55-55.10; Jan-March, 55.60-55.80; April-June, 59.30-59.40; July-Sept, 62.50-62.70; Oct-Dec, 65.90-66.00; Jan-March, 69.20-69.40; April-June, 72.20-72.50; July-Sept, 75.20-75.50. Sales: 21 at five tonnes; 216 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS.—Spot, 53.64; Cifs: Jan, 53.75-54.25; Feb, 55-55.75.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Nov, 1122-1125; Jan, 1128-1130; March, 1103-1104; May 1097-1098; July 1095-1099; Sept, 1097-1099; Nov, 1080-1095.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).— Dec, 1078-1080; March, 1088-1089; May, 1100-1101; July 1111-1113; Sept, 1118-1120; Dec, 1130-1139; March 1145-1155. Sales: 2,344 lots including one option. ICCO prices: daily (Nov 23) 89.85 c; indicator price (Nov 24) 5-day average 90.95 c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £2 lower at £151; the "whites" price was £1 lower at £165. Futures (£ per tonne): Jan, 158-160; March 162.10-163.20; May 164.90-164.95; Aug, 168.75-168.80; Oct, 173.55-173.70; Jan, 174.80-175.80; March 181-181.05. Sales: 3,418 lots. ISA prices (Nov 23): daily 11.73 c; 15-day average 11.84 c.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne).—Dec, 123.50-124.50; Feb, 126.70-127.20; April 128.90-129.00; June 130.50-131.00; Aug, 132-134; Oct, 134-136.50; Dec, 135-139. Sales: 255 lots.

WOOL.—NZ CROSSBREDS No. 2 contract (cents per kilo): Dec 373-376; Jan 373-376; March 385-388; May 394-396; Aug 408-411; Oct 411-414; Dec 418-422; Jan 421-425; March 428-431; May 435-440. Sales: 51 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic). — WHEAT. — Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No. 3, 14 per cent: Nov and Dec £112.75; Jan £118.50 trans-shipment east coast sellers. US hard winter 13½ per cent unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob: Jan-March £115.25 east coast sellers.

MAIZE.—French: Dec £128 east coast. South Africa: White optional yellow: Dec £85 seller.

BARLEY.—English feed fob: Nov £106.50 east coast; Dec £106.50; Jan-March £109.50 east coast sellers. All cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin —BARLEY: Jan £103.80; March £106.80; May £109.70; Sept £100.95. Sales: 24 lots. WHEAT: Jan £108; March £111.15; May £114.25; July £117.10; Sept £106.50. Sales: 54 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	—	£105.80	£101.20
S. West	—	£106.00	£102.00
W. Mids	—	£105.60	£100.70
N. West	—	£106.90	£103.00

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Nov 24: GB cattle, 96.79p per kg lw (+0.49); UK sheep, 169.09p per kg est dcw (+3.20); GB pigs, 78.77p per kg lw (−0.76). England and Wales: Cattle nos down 7.6 per cent, ave price 94.93p (+0.14); sheep nos down 16.1 per cent, ave price 168.71p (+6.05); pig nos up 0.4 per cent, ave price 78.46p (−0.90). Scotland: Cattle nos up 21.4 per cent, ave price 101.06p (+0.24); sheep nos up 31.6 per cent, ave price 168.40p (+0.88); pig nos down 10.0 per cent, ave price 81.48p (+0.66).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($ US per tonne) —Nov, 324.00-24.50; Dec, 325.00-25.25; Jan, 325.50-25.75; Feb, 325.50-25.75; Mar, 325.00-25.25; April, 325.00-24.00; May, 324.25-24.75; June, 324.50-25.50; July, 324.50-25.50. Sales, 767 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £85.50; April, £96.50; Nov, £67.30. Sales: 280 lots of 40 tonnes each.

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—In home-produced there was steady trade with the demand for the smaller sizes the best feature. Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer, first-hand):

	Wed Thur Fri	Mon Tues
1's	7.20 to 7.50	7.00 to 7.50
2's	7.00 to 7.30	6.90 to 7.30
3's	6.90 to 7.20	6.80 to 7.20
4's	6.75 to 7.00	6.70 to 7.10
5's	6.30 to 6.70	6.30 to 6.70
6's	5.40 to 5.60	5.40 to 5.70
7's	4.40 to 4.60	4.30 to 4.60

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Monthly figures for unemployment in United Kingdom published by the Department of Employment yesterday.

	Adults (adjusted) 000	% of all employees	Unadjusted inc school leavers 000
1980			
Nov	2,030	8.4	2,163
Dec	2,137	8.8	2,244
1981			
Jan	2,228	9.2	2,419
Feb	2,304	9.5	2,463
March	2,381	9.8	2,485
April	2,452	10.1	2,525
May	2,515	10.4	2,558
June	2,582	10.6	2,680
July	2,582	10.7	2,852
Aug	2,626	10.9	2,940
Sept	2,673	11.1	2,999
Oct	2,729	11.3	2,988
Nov	2,764	11.4	2,854

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Seasonally adjusted (excluding school leavers)

	No 000	Change in month 000	% of all employees
South East	635.4	+3.1	8.4
East Anglia	65.8	+0.3	9.1
South West	168.2	−0.9	10.0
West Midlands	320.3	−0.2	13.8
East Midlands	163.8	−0.8	10.1
Yorkshire & Humberside	251.5	+1.8	11.9
North West	395.1	+8.5	13.9
North	200.3	+1.3	14.8
Wales	158.4	+2.0	14.6
Scotland	304.9	+2.7	13.5
Great Britain	2,662.8	+35.0	11.3
N Ireland	101.6	+0.5	17.6
United Kingdom	2,764.4	+35.5	11.4

Wall Street

New York, Nov 24.—Stocks closed sharply higher, boosted by declining interest rates, signs inflation is abating and a rally in the bond market.

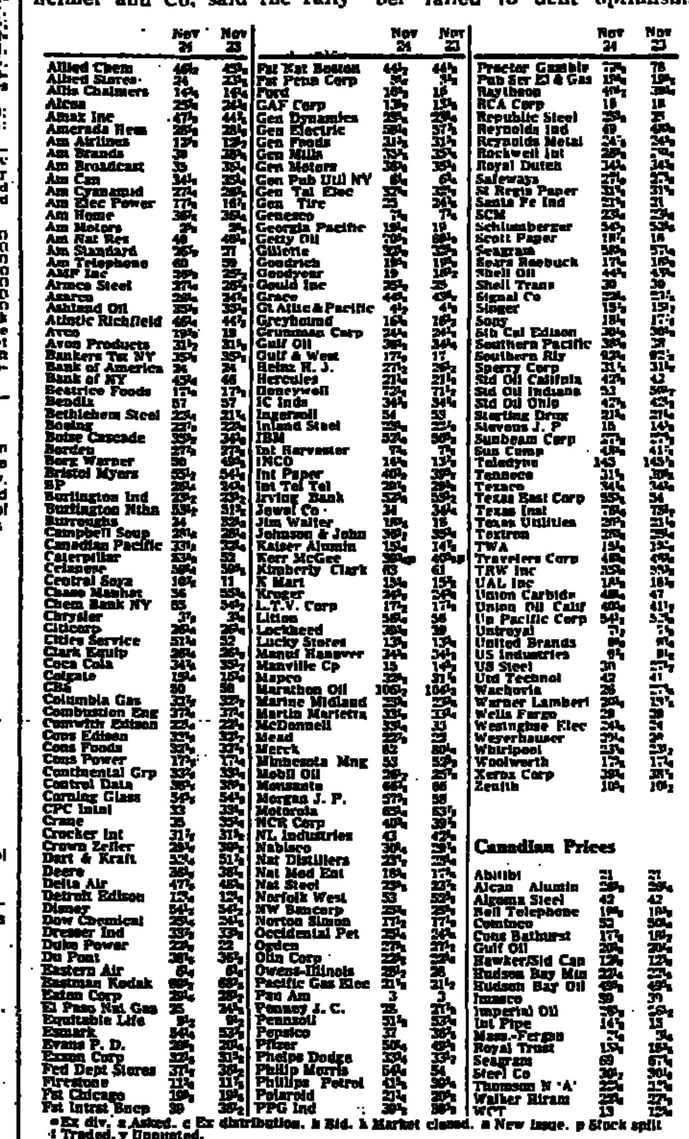
The Dow Jones industrial average showed only slight gains most of the day but then took off about mid-afternoon to close up 18.45 points at 870.24. Advances led declines by about 1,000 to 500 and volume soared to some 59 million shares from 45,250,000 on Monday.

Mr Michael Metz, of Oppenheimer and Co, said the rally was particularly encouraging because the leadership came from blue chip stocks rather than the speculative takeover issues that have dominated trading the last few days.

The market's rally started this morning on news that consumer prices rose only 0.4 per cent last month, the smallest monthly rise since July 1980.

More support came from prime rate cuts, to 16 per cent by most major banks and 15½ per cent by Chase Manhattan. "The prime rate came down much faster and deeper than we had thought", Mr Robert Stovall of Dean Witter Reynolds, said.

Even news that car sales were sharply down for November failed to dent optimism.



	Nov 24	Nov 23
Allied Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alcoa	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Airlines	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Cyanamid	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Home	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Nat Res	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Standard	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Telephone	[illegible]	[illegible]

Canadian Prices

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	Authorized Unit Trusts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Method and madness fail to resolve a protracted impasse

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

West Bromwich 1 West Ham 1

West Bromwich Albion and West Ham United must try again. Regis and Stewart both scored in extra time at the Hawthorns last night and so after three and a half hours their third round League Cup tie is still unresolved. West Ham later won the toss and will stage the second replay next Tuesday to decide who goes through to meet Crystal Palace.

The two sides shared four goals at Upton Park a fortnight ago and took notably different paths to attack here. For speed of thought as well as action, West Ham were far superior, their moves crackling through midfield like corn ripening in the sun. West Brom, in contrast, were as methodical as an inexperienced cook following a recipe book.

West Ham should have taken the lead as early as the second minute, but Neighbour merely prodded the ball back into Grew's arms after the goalkeeper had mishandled Devonshire's cross.

Pike then became the central pivot of several rapid first-time passes ending with Devonshire's fierce shot but Grew managed to hold that as well as Martin's powerful header from a corner.

It was Goddard, one of four England representatives in West Ham's lineup, who scorned the best chance. Freed by Devonshire, he scampered clear of West Bromwich's defence but ran out of room and purpose when confronted by Grew, who appeared to bring him down. Neighbour thought so, too, and was booked for saying so.

West Bromwich ran out of ideas almost in their own penalty area. Apart from the obvious target of Regis's head, they had little else to offer except for the scuttling runs of Statham, who finished two long forays by firing into the sparse crowd. Parkes was troubled in normal time only by a headed flick from Regis, a long-range effort from Jol and the flying studs of King.

Much has been made of the prospects of Martin, an England probable, marking Regis, an England possible, but Bonds, who missed the first tie, helped his young centre half to contain the danger, particularly in the air, until both of them might have expected their colleagues to have put the issue beyond doubt. In the end, though, they were not denied.

As West Ham began to fade like their famed bubbles, West Bromwich grew more abrasive. Even Brooking, booked only six times in his lengthy career, was reduced to reacting wildly to Jol's hard challenge. Eventually, the referee stepped in and took the names of Statham, Robertson and Jol as well as Pike, all for fouls.

At the dawn of extra time West Bromwich's persistence paid off and the man to reward them, not surprisingly, was Regis. Unleashed by King, he shrugged off Bonds as he cut in from the right and beat Parkes at the near post. King himself almost headed West Bromwich into an unassailable position before West Ham came back.

Neighbour, also with a diving header, had threatened to equalize but with barely 10 minutes remaining West Bromwich paid the costliest of prices for another foul. Wile bundled Brooking over in the area and Stewart, choosing precision rather than power, scored from the penalty spot.

WEST BROM: M Grew; B Batson, D Statham, A King, J Wile, J Robertson, M Jol, A Brown, C Regis, G Owen, S MacKenzie.

WEST HAM: P Parkes; R Stewart, F Lampard, W Bonds, A Martin, A Devonshire, J Neighbour, P Goddard (sub P Allen), D Cross, T Brooking, G Pike.

Referee: H W King (Merthyr Tydfil).

No question—Brighton have all the answers

By Nicholas Harling

Swansea City 0 Brighton 0

Brighton and Hove Albion became only the second team to deny Swansea City at home this season with an obstinate display that prevented the Welsh club from joining Manchester United at the top of the first division. Unbeaten now for eight matches, Brighton possessed all the answers to Swansea's endeavour. The goalless draw seemed inevitable long before half-time.

Brighton's early raids had promised much. Thomas and Grealish, on his return to the side, fired too close to Davies's far upright for comfort and the goalkeeper twice had to race from his line to win the ball from the toes of Robinson. Such positive signs were not to last and Brighton quickly settled down to slog it out in midfield.

With both sides adopting 4-4-2 formations, albeit fairly sensible ones, the midfield was soon a congested area. Neither side seemed to possess any inspiration or the skill to create the decisive break. Swansea, as always, looked to Leighton James to help and he almost obliged with a centre that Curtis flicked on to give Latchford a chance and then with a drive that Moseley did well to parry. It was to be that goalkeeper's only serious save.

Thereafter James, either lacking the confidence or the speed to take on Shanks, persisted in shooting from ridiculous angles or sending in crosses, made for Foster, who actually discarded his headband for the second half. Gatting tidied neatly alongside the centre half but Brighton were nearly betrayed by a rash back-pass in the sixty-third minute that would have let in Latchford had he not overrun the ball.

Such was the scarcity of chances that any photographer arriving late would have been chastised for missing most of the goalmouth action, although Case did his utmost to provide a spectacular picture with a spectacular diving header that Davies held safely. Case spent most of the rest of the evening denying Swansea the room they badly required, leaving McNab to provide an industrious but unproductive service for Robinson and Smith.

Mahoney eventually took Swansea's frustration out on Case to earn a caution. Mahoney stayed on the field but Swansea were soon to lose, with an aggravated knee injury, their substitute Charles, a half-time replacement for Rajkovic. By then Brighton seemed so content with their point that they made no attempt to capitalize on their numerical advantage.

SWANSEA CITY: D Davies; G Stanley, D Hadziabdic, A Rajkovic (sub J Charles), C Irwin, J Mahoney, A Curtis, R James, L James, M Thompson, R Latchford.

BRIGHTON: G Moseley; D Shanks, S Nelson, A Grealish, S Foster, S Gatting, J Case, G Smith, M Robinson, N McNab, M Thomas.

Referee: K Baker (Rugby).

Wrong kind of fireworks at Montevideo

Montevideo, Nov 24.—Five players were sent off during a playoff for the Latin American Club championship between the Brazilian champions Flamengo and Cobreloa of Chile here last night. The violence on the field spilled over on to the terraces when the match ended.

Flamengo won 2—0 to earn the right to play the European champions Liverpool for the world club championship in Tokyo on December 13.

Flamengo took the lead in the eighteenth minute when, after catching the defence on the wrong foot, Zico scored with a fierce drive. Both teams were guilty of bad fouls and before the first half was over Andrade of Flamengo and Alarcon of Cobreloa had been sent off.

The Chileans, who were outplayed during the first half, improved in the second but were still no match for the slick Brazilians. Zico hit a post in the sixty-fourth minute before settling the championship in the seventy-eighth with a goal scored from a free kick.

A few minutes before the end Flamengo's Anselmo and Cobreloa's Soto and Gimenez were sent off after a scuffle involving several players.

Referee gives Kilcline his marching orders

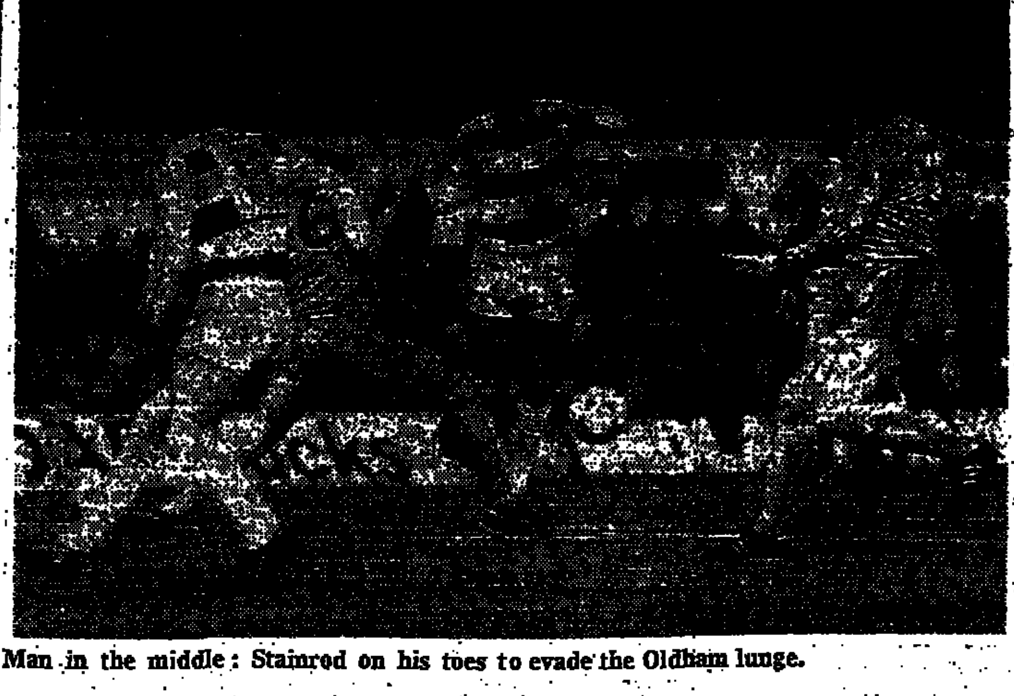
Brian Kilcline, the Notts County defender, was sent off for dissent last night four minutes from the end of his side's first division home game with Everton, which finished 2—2. After being booked for a foul on Ainscow, who was forced to limp off, Kilcline persisted in arguing with the referee, Malcolm Heath.

Coventry City easily defeated Stoke City 3—0 after scoring twice in the first three minutes. Daly scored after 27 seconds and two minutes later Thompson headed home a centre from Hunt.

Southampton and Wolverhampton Wanderers shared a goalless draw, but there were plenty of goals in the second division. There were seven at The Valley, where Charlton Athletic lost 4—3 to Chelsea. It was their sixth successive defeat.

Luton Town went five points clear at the top of the second division table when Stein and Moss gave them a 2—0 win over Bolton Wanderers.

Mabbutt, Crystal Palace's new signing from Bristol City, scored twice as his side gave their acting manager, Steve Kember, home victory at the first attempt by beating Norwich City 2—1.



Man in the middle: Stainrod on his toes to evade the Oldham lunge.

Frizzell finds new pitch of achievement

By David Powell

Q P Rangers 0 Oldham 0

Jimmy Frizzell has proved himself equal to all manner of challenges in 11 years as manager of Oldham Athletic. Last night he broke new ground when he caused the graph of home wins at Loftus Road to take a rare deviation from the norm.

Unfashionable Oldham, who have risen from the fourth division under Mr Frizzell, used a tightly-bound defence to ensure that their attempt to regain the first division seats they last held 59 years ago did not suffer a setback. Consequently, Queen's Park Rangers were unable to improve on their record of seven wins in their previous eight home matches.

It is the popular theory that the Omniturf surface, in use this season for the first time, gives Rangers more than the traditional home advantage. They used their knowledge of it to control the game almost entirely without relief for Oldham. However, Mr Frizzell proved to have the most effective of weapons in Futcher, a tireless centre back, and McDonnell, a goalkeeper who produced one of the most outstanding performances of his career.

As the final whistle blew, home supporters jeered in disappointment, a far cry from their reaction shortly before the game when it was announced that Rangers would, after all, play in the FA Cup this season. That piece of news was greeted with the loudest cheer of the evening.

McDonnell soon became acquainted with the artificial grass as he dashed out to the edge of his area to block Allen when the Rangers striker intercepted a short back pass from Clements. Allen was again denied as McDonnell saved with his knee.

In the second half, the Oldham goalkeeper was busier still and his most glorious moment came right at the end when Flanagan weaved his way through but his low angled shot was palmed away by McDonnell. The nearest Rangers came to scoring was when Stainrod, formerly with Oldham, headed against the bar.

Burridge needed to perform his well-known routine of acrobatic exercises for most of the game to keep warm on a cold night. It was only infrequently that he was actually required to meet up with the ball. Saving from Hoolickin was the height of his achievement, as the Oldham defender struck a fierce shot.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS: J Burridge; [illegible]

OLDHAM ATHLETIC: P McDonnell; [illegible]

Referee: L Burden (Dorset).

☐ Jim Gregory, the club chairman, has withdrawn his threat to keep Queen's Park Rangers out of the FA Cup because of a dispute over the club's synthetic pitch. Mr Gregory and the manager, Terry Venables, discussed the situation with FA officials at Lancaster Gate yesterday and in a statement the club said: "Mr Gregory has now received sufficient reassurance from the Football Association to be able to state that Queen's Park Rangers will be taking part in the FA Cup competition this season."

Linnets left trilling sadly as Burnley clip their wings

By Keith Macklin

Runcorn 1 Burnley 2

There were no giantkilling heroics from Runcorn, but Burnley left it until late in the game to assert that extra touch of experience and class.

The two Jimmys, Adamson and McElroy, who schemed Burnley to the first division championship three decades ago, must weep for today's third division side. Runcorn, now in the Alliance Premier League after sweeping through the Northern Premier, gave Burnley another rare tussle after holding them at Turf Moor on Saturday.

The biggest crowd for years at the tiny Canal Street ground, saw Burnley take the lead after 16 minutes. Overson's cross from the right was headed by a defender to the feet of McGee, who shot first time past Parker.

At this stage the third division side were looking a superior class, but Runcorn roused themselves in the feverish manner traditional to giant killers on home ground. The Linnets missed a great chance after half an hour, when the Burnley defence raced up to the halfway line. The referee ruled play on, but Scott, perhaps startled to find himself in the clear and not offside, dallied too long and the chance was lost.

However, Runcorn scored a splendid equalizer when Seddon rose above a group of statuesque Burnley defenders to head Crompton's corner past Stevenson.

Runcorn were rampant now and Dobson, who like Stevenson and Cassidy has known life in the first division, chopped down Joel and was booked.

For most of the second half Runcorn's spirit and courage held out against and occasionally troubled the visitors. Unfortunately for Runcorn the dangerous Joel, who had lumps kicked off him by ruthless defenders, was substituted by Parry and the home attack lost much of its fire.

In the later stages Burnley got a grip on matters. Whatron hit the post with a curling cross, and in 78 minutes McGee scored again. Sadly for the Linnets and their large one-off following, a defensive mistake let in McGee and he beat Parker comfortably.

Before he had to go off Joel wreaked vengeance on Dobson and was cautioned, and as foul followed foul in a heated spell, Runcorn's Fraser also went into the book. Runcorn died bravely, and will be grateful for their little night of glory and their gate receipts from a 6,000 attendance.

They look good enough to stay on top of the Alliance Premier League, but Burnley still have much to do to get out of division three.

RUNCORN: B Parker; T Rudder, M Scott, E Edwards, B Seddon, A Crompton, O Smith, E Kelly, B Fraser, G Jones, F Joel (sub P Parry).

BURNLEY: A Stevenson; B Laws, A Wharton, T Cassidy, V Overson, M Phelan, M Dobson, T Steven, W Hamilton, P McGree, K Young (sub E Potts).

Referee: G Seel (Carlisle).

Wednesday follow Barnsley lead

By a Special Correspondent

Sheffield W 2 Barnsley 2

After a riveting second-half struggle between two hard-running and skilful second division sides, Sheffield Wednesday and Barnsley split the points at Hillsborough. A crowd of 30,000 rose to their feet in the second half when Taylor ran 30 yards to put Wednesday into the lead that lasted until the eighty-seventh minute, when Glavin burst through for Barnsley's deserved equalizer.

It was a game of contrasting halves. Barnsley provided the enthusiasm before the interval and Wednesday responded after after half time, if not with as much skill, at least with energy and courage.

Barnsley came to a packed Hillsborough resolved at least to prove they are the best side in South Yorkshire. Their pace, flair and inventiveness, plus a nice touch of ruthlessness in the tackle, quickly proved that their ambitions need not be confined to meeting their neighbours.

Within five minutes a competent Wednesday side were made to look pedestrian and the fact that Barnsley scored just once, before the interval was due to the home side's good luck rather than their good football.

The first raids by Wednesday were held easily by the Barnsley back four, which quickly became a back six or eight under pressure and with McHale so swift to dominate the midfield and push ground passes through the gaps in Wednesday's defence Barnsley were soon ahead. Before their goal, however, Parker had hit the foot of a post after a clever back-heel by Aylott and it was Parker who scored with a rasping low shot after 17 minutes.

Chambers began a lovely movement in his own half with a smart pass to McHale who pivoted and sent Barrowclough racing down the left past Sterland. He then produced a swinging left-footed centre which was nodded down by Aylott to the ready Parker.

The dressing room lecture for Wednesday was clearly fruitful for they came out, copied Barnsley's first half tactics of running hard and took the game to their opponents. The pressure brought them a free kick which dropped awkwardly, struck a defender's shoulder and fell to McCulloch who equalized after 53 minutes.

The tension built up and Curran, previously much sinned against, was booked and a similar punishment was meted out to Aylott after he felled Megson.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: R Bolder; M Sterland, C Williamson, M Smith, M Pickering, K Taylor, G Megson, J King, G Bannister, A McCulloch, T Curran.

BARNSLEY: R Horn; J Joyce, P Chambers, R Glavin, I Banks, M McCarthy, I Evans, D Parker, T Aylott, R McHale, S Barrowclough.

Referee: D Richardson (Blackburn).

Weymouth wilt in replay

Northampton Town swept aside the FA Cup first round replay challenge of the Alliance Premier League side Weymouth at the County Ground last night and were not flattered by their 6—2 victory. The fourth division outfit stunned the south coast side with two goals in the opening four minutes from Gage and Sandy.

Gage headed his second in the thirty-seventh minute to end any hopes of a Weymouth comeback and two goals in 60 seconds from Carlton and Phillips on the stroke of half time completed a nightmare opening 45 minutes for the non-leaguers.

The substitute Finnegan headed a consolation goal for Weymouth in the seventy-fifth minute but Mahoney restored the five-goal advantage with number six five minutes later. Finnegan had the final say with Weymouth's second.

Workington went the same way as Weymouth, crashing 5—0 to Huddersfield Town of the third division at Leeds Road. Workington defended stubbornly for 38 minutes before Huddersfield's top scorer Robins put the home side ahead.

Three minutes into the second half Lillis virtually put the tie beyond the visitors' reach with a second. Then, as Workington's resistence crumbled, Laverick scored in the fifty-third and eighty-fourth minutes. Before Cowling scored a fifth three minutes from the end, Workington twice struck the Huddersfield woodwork with shots from Smith and Armstrong, their substitute.

Two players were sent off and three booked in a thrilling replay at Gillingham where the home team beat Plymouth Argyle 1—0. A three-man move gave Gillingham the lead in the fifty-second minute. Bowman was the scorer with a flying header.

Plymouth extended the home defence and Gillingham's task increased with the sixty-ninth minute, loss of Bruce, sent off after a first-half booking. Plymouth then had McCartney ordered off in the last minute.

Barnet, Sutton United and Wycombe Wanderers moved into the second round by winning replays against other non-league teams.

Rugby Union

Australians likely to scorn easy option

By David Hands

The Australians return to Leicester today, the ground where they started their tour, if not with the stride of conquering heroes, at least with the satisfied air of men who have cleared the first hurdle in a four-barrier race. Last Saturday, they beat Ireland and should be in relaxed mood against the English club champions.

Seven of the Leicester side which play today helped the Midlands division to a 16—10 win over the touring team last month. One who did not is Barry Evans, aged 19, who has displaced the Welsh B cap, Kevin Williams on the right wing. Evans, an outstanding centre in his school days, won an England 16 group cap on the wing and in five games for the Tigers has scored four tries.

He injects an element of pace on Leicester's flank which the club has not seen for two decades, although his selection ahead of Williams has provoked considerable discussion. Kenney is restored at scrum half after injury, but he knows that the club's new recruit, Young is snapping hard on his heels for the place. Young played well on his first appearance against Wasps last Saturday, and it may have been Kenney's extra degree of familiarity with his stand-off and back row which won him the edge today.

The Australians field five of the 15 that beat Ireland, although McLean moves from stand-off to full back. The half back combination is Ella and Cox, which may be a focal point of attention for the Leicester back row. The contrast in style between Ella and Cusworth, who met in the final of the international sevens tournament in Hongkong last March (when Cusworth was playing for Barbarians), will be entertaining.

Martin, who dislocated his shoulder against Pontypool, returns after missing five games and the wing, Grigg, has recovered from a back strain. The Australians will be led, for the first time on this tour, by the No 8, Mark Loane.

Over the last month Leicester, whose pack has undergone some reconstruction this season, have found the going hard. Their style is such that the easy answer for clubs in opposition is to concentrate on defence, without risking the mistakes an attacking policy invariably brings. The Australians are unlikely to worry unduly on a defensive score, so the match, which is sponsored by the Harrogate-based firm, Modern Maintenance Products Ltd, contains all the elements of a free-running affair.

LEICESTER: W H Hare; B Evans, P W Dodge, C R Woodward, R C Barnwell; L Cusworth, S Kenney; J Deacon, P J Wheeler, S P Redfern, S R Johnson (capt), N R Joyce, N Jackson, I R Smith, D J Forfar.

AUSTRALIANS: P E McLean; P C Grigg, M D O'Connor, M H Cox, M C Martin; M G Ella, P A Cox; D J Curran, L Walker, J E C Meadows, G Cornelsen, S A Williams, D Hall, C Roche, M E Loane (capt).

Referee: M Rae (Ireland).

Cambridge pack's chance to confirm their reputation

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

The England internationals, Peter Rossborough (full back), Nick Preston (centre) and Bob Wilkinson (lock), as well as Andy Wolstenholme, the Blackheath and London hooker, have been drafted into Mickey Steele-Bodger's side for the annual match against Cambridge University at Grange Road this afternoon.

Their call-up is due to the withdrawal of the Lancashire quartet of Beaumont, Carleton, O'Brien and Dixon, who are required by their county for squad training before they play Gloucestershire on Saturday in the semi-final round of the championship sponsored by Thorne EMI.

Another change in the visiting side has been caused by a calf injury to Paul Randall, the Wasps and England B loose head prop. Tim Walker, of London Scottish, will take his place.

A nice family touch to the occasion will be a first appearance in the Cambridge XV of Mr Steele-Bodger's son, Guy, a hooker from his old school, Rugby. He takes over from the injured Julian Johnson, who required a dozen stitches in his head after an unfortunate mishap at a party. He will be back in the side on Saturday.

Bill Biddell, who played at lock against Oxford last December, renews his partnership with Douglas Walker in the second row after playing a couple of good games at No. 8. Those appearances were due to the absence of Jeremy Macklin, an important cog in the Cambridge works, now ruled out of this term's University match because of injury. Peter Lillington, who toured New Zealand with Scotland last summer, reverts to his old position of No. 8.

After enabling Blackheath to complete a double over the two universities last weekend, Cambridge should be keyed up for a big effort. Though not at full strength—the prop, John Kingston, is another enforced absentee—the pack will want to confirm their reputation as the best seen at Grange Road for a number of years, and the backs to put their act together in a more convincing fashion.

By all accounts the outsides have been disappointing of late. My local spy tells me that Huw Davies has been trying to do too much on his own and that Marcus Rose too often has found a reception committee waiting for him when he thunders into his line.

A lot of visitors will be interested in the performance of Walter Winterbottom, the Headingley and Yorkshire open flanker who played for England B last Saturday. In the same position on the Cambridge side there is Toby Allchurch, who did not. Allchurch has been in good fettle this term, and doubtless feels that in this confrontation he has something to prove.

It will seem almost like a family occasion for Bob Wilkinson, too. I do not think he has missed this match since playing three times against Oxford in the early seventies.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: M Rose (Magdalene); T O'Brien (Jesus), R Boyd-Moss (Magdalene), A McGahey (Fitzwilliam), S Cooke (Magdalene); H Davies (Selwyn, capt), J Cullen (Downing); W Ng (Trinity), G Steele-Bodger (Selwyn), S Gill (Fitzwilliam), N Bennett (Fitzwilliam), W Biddell (Magdalene), D Walker (Downing), T Allchurch (Downing), P Lillington (Magdalene).

STEELE-BODGER'S XV: P E Rossborough (Coventry); R A Ackerman (Newport), D I Johnston (Watsonians), N Preston (Richmond), S Holdstock (Nottingham); J Y Rutherford (Selkirk), I Peck (Bedford); G S Pearce (Northampton), A Wolstenholme (Blackheath), J R Walker (London Scottish), N C Jeavons (Moseley), R M Wilkinson (Bedford), V G Cannon (Northampton), P J Winterbottom (Headingley), A G Ripley (Rosslyn Park).

Carleton returns for Lancashire

Lancashire welcome back their hard-running England winger, John Carleton (Orrell), after a long absense with a broken collarbone; for the county championship semi-final with Gloucestershire at Gloucester. The injury occurred before the season began in a club trial match.

Carleton resumed playing again four weeks ago, went straight into the Orrell senior team, survived a scare that the bone might have broken again, and last Saturday played at centre to prove his complete return to fitness.

North Midlands keep their winning line-up for the semi-final against Middlesex at Moseley.

CLUB MATCHES: Rosslyn Park 44, Loughborough Students 10.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Welsh Police 10, Rest UK Police 4.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Brighton 18, Cranbrook 12; St John's Leatherhead 13, Sevenoaks 9.

Today's fixtures

(Kick off 7.30 unless stated)

FIRST DIVISION: Leeds United v Manchester City; Sunderland v Nottingham Forest.

SECOND DIVISION: Blackburn Rovers v Shrewsbury Town; Derby County v Cambridge United.

LEAGUE CUP: third round, replays: Aston Villa v Leicester City; Lincoln City v Watford.

FA CUP: first round, replays: Hartlepool v Wigan Athletic; Millwall v Portsmouth; Torquay United v Bristol City; Yeovil v Dagenham.

UEFA CUP: third round, first leg: Aberdeen v Hamburg.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bath v Worcester.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Wellingborough v Milton Keynes. Southern: Andover v Crawley; Dover v Hastings; Fareham Town v Salisbury.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Manchester City v Sheffield Wednesday; Newcastle United v Liverpool (7.0); Stoke City v Wolverhampton Wanderers; West Bromwich Albion v Blackpool; Huddersfield Town v Bury.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Chelsea v Orient; Hereford v Fulham; Norwich v Crystal Palace; Reading v Leicester City; Tottenham Hotspur v Luton Town.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second division: Horsham v Camberley Town.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: FA XI v Cambridge University (at Cambridge United FC); Kent League v Sussex County League (at Chatham); Essex FA v The Army (at Chelmsford FC).

Rugby Union

TOUR MATCH: Leicester v The Australians (3.0).

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University v Steele-Bodgers XV (2.30); Cross Keys v Neath (7.0); Ebbw Vale v South Glamorgan Institute (7.0); Pontypridd v Pontypool (7.0); Weston-super-Mare v Glamorgan Wanderers (7.0).

OTHER MATCHES: Bank of England v Stock Exchange XV; Rosslyn Park v United Banks (6.0); Thames Valley Police v West Mercia Police.

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: South, third place: Kent v Reading.

Hockey

LONDON LEAGUE: Cambridge University v Hawks; Slough v Oxford University.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: London University v Essex (at Motspur Park).

SERVICES CHAMPIONSHIP: RAF v Royal Navy (at Aldershot, 1.45).

Motor rallying

Ten-minute cushion gained by Mikkola

By Peter Waymark

Hannu Mikkola, trying for his third win in the Lombard RAC Rally, maintained a lead of almost 10 minutes as the 74 surviving crews from a field of 150 tackled the tough Welsh forest stages during the final leg of the rally last night.

His main rival for the title, Guy Frequelin, lost 50 seconds when his Sunbeam Lotus went into a ditch and had to be lifted out by spectators.

Mikkola's Audi Quattro, with its turbo-charged engine and four-wheel drive, was far enough ahead of schedule at one point for Mikkola and his co-driver, Arne Hertz, to stop for a 10-minute coffee break. Winner of the rally in 1979 and 1978, Mikkola went ahead soon after the start on Sunday and only lost his place once, when his car rolled onto its roof during the Grizedale forest stage in the Lake District. But the vehicle was soon righted.

Ari Vatanen was still in second place behind Mikkola in his Ford Escort and increasing his chances of taking this year's world rally championship.

The French girl, Michèle Mouton, in the other Audi Quattro, slightly closed the gap on Vatanen but it remained to be seen whether she would be quick enough in the Welsh forests to shake off a determined challenge from Stig Blomqvist's Sunbeam. The highest placed Briton was again Jimmy McRae, from Scotland, in the Opel Ascona. Consistent driving kept McRae, the British rally champion, in touch with the leaders, but he was unable to improve on fifth place.

Although the crews faced difficult conditions, with gale-force winds and wintry showers, the only change in the top positions saw Per Eklund dropping back from seventh to ninth when his Toyota Celica developed oil pump trouble.

With the retirement of Tony Pond (Vauxhall Chevette), with half shaft failure, and Russell Brookes, whose Sunbeam was an early casualty with a broken prop shaft, the other leading British drivers were Terry Kaby (Toyota Celica), in twelfth place, and Willie Rutherford (Ford Escort), fourteenth.

Between them was the three-times American rally champion, John Buffum, driving a British Triumph TR7. BL have not entered an official works team this year but Buffum is sponsored by Leycare and supported by mechanics from BL Motorsport.

LEADING POSITIONS (after 39 special stages): 1, H Mikkola (Audi Quattro), 318min 26sec; 2, A Vatanen (Ford Escort), 325.58; 3, M Mouton (Audi Quattro), 328.03; 4, S Blomqvist (Talbot Sunbeam Lotus), 330.06; 5, J McRae (Opel Ascona), 331.14; 6, P Airikkala (Ford Escort), 332.25; 7, J Ragnotti (Renault Five Turbo), 336.39; 8, A Kullang (Mitsubishi Lancer Turbo), 338.18; 9, P Eklund (Toyota Celica), 338.48; 10, G Frequelin (Talbot Sunbeam Lotus), 339.36.

Real tennis

A schoolmaster goes top of amateur class

By Roy McKelvie

Michael Dean became the only amateur to reach the last eight of the open championships, sponsored by Unigate, at Queen's Club yesterday. Dean, a former professional and now a Radley schoolmaster, beat one of the Queen's Club professionals, Kevin King, by 6—1, 6—4, 6—2 and today meets another, David Johnson.

The four matches played were as one-sided a ethose on Monday. Lachlan Deuchar, of Hobart, Tasmania—the world's most southerly court—was far too severe and mobile for the industrious Fred Satow and won by 6—3, 6—2, 6—1. Johnson, without ever punishing the ball, out rallied Walter Gregg, of Troon, by 6—2, 6—2, 6—4.

Frank Willis, a former champion from Manchester, nowadays plays more squash rackets than real tennis. But he is such an instinctive and natural player that Peter Seabrook, an amateur, got little change from their match and was beaten 6—3, 6—3, 6—2.

Seabrook's power of return has improved but against Willis, whose strokes are well cut and heavy, he was at a disadvantage, if not from the first stroke of any rally certainly from the second and third.

He did not show enough respect for Willis's strokes and tended to hit too high, specially when forcing, and had difficulty in finding any sort of length. In fact, he played around chase six.

Dean's win over King, was not as comfortable as the score suggests. There was little bite in Dean's strokes except for his forehand volley. King kept in many of the rallies and scored quite a few winning openings. But every so often he had moments of aberration and would hit down a succession of strokes.

Yesterday's results

League Cup

Third round replay

West Brom (0) 1 Regis; West Ham (0) 1 Stewart

Winners away to Crystal Palace

First division

Coventry (2) 3 Daley, Thompson, Bradford; Stoke (0) 0 10,230

Notts Co (0) 2 Hooks, McCulloch 7,771; Everton (1) 2 Biley, Sharp

Swansea (0) 0 14,459; Brighton (0) 0

Wolves (0) 0 13,438; Southmtn (0) 0

Second division

Charlton (2) 3 Robinson, Hales, Ambrose 11,082; Chelsea (3) 4 Walker 2, Bumstead 2

C. Palace (0) 2 Mabbutt 2 9,010; Norwich (0) 1 Mendham

Luton (0) 2 Stein, Moss; Bolton (0) 0 8,880

Orient (0) 1 Margerrison; Newcastle (0) 0 4,026

QP Rangers (0) 0 9,477; Oldham (0) 0

Sheff Wed (0) 2 McCulloch, Taylor 30,621; Barnsley (1) 2 Parker, Glavin

Wrexham (2) 3 Hunt, Buxton 2; Cardiff (0) 1 Dwyer 3,655

FA Cup

First round replays

Barnet (1) 1 Sargent; Harlow (0) 0 2,577

Winners home to Wycombe

Bury (0) 2 Madden 2, Johnson; Tranmere (0) 1 Williams 4,648

Winners home to Burnley

Carlisle (0) 3 Robson, Beardsley, Bannon; Darlington (0) 1 Smith 4,382

Winners home to Bishop Auckland

Gillingham (0) 1 Bowman; Plymouth (0) 0 7,320

Winners home to Barking

Huddersfld (1) 5 Robins, Willis, Laverick 2, Brown; Workingtn (0) 0 7,308

Winners away to Chesterfield

Hull (1) 2 Whitehurst, Swann 4,063; Rochdale (0) 2 Burke, Essex

After extra time.

Winners home to Wigan or Hartlepool

Northmptn (5) 6 Gage 2, Sandy, Carlton, Phillips, Mahoney; Weymouth (0) 2 Finnegan 2

Winners away to Bristol City or Torquay

Runcorn (1) 1 Seddon; Burnley (1) 2 McGee 2

Winners away to Bury

Sutton (0) 2 Rogers, J Rains; B Stortford 1 Clarke 2,160

Winners away to Swindon

Wycombe (0) 2 Kennedy, Glynn; Hendon 0 2,307

Winners away to Barnet

Scottish first division

Queen's Pk (1) 3 McGregor, Nicholson; Ayr (0) 0

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Gloucester 1, Stourbridge 1. Southern division: Ashford 0, Gosport 0; Aylesbury 3, Wealdstone 0; Hillingdon 1, Basingstoke 2; Thanet 2, Chelmsford 1; Tonbridge 0, Canterbury 1.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Birmingham 0, Ipswich 2; Southampton 2, Plymouth 0; Swindon 2, Bristol City 1; Watford 0, Arsenal 0; West Ham 3, Queen's Park Rangers 1.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barking 0, Leytonstone and Ilford 1; Billericay 1, Bromley 1; Hayes 0, Staines 0; Tooting and Mitcham 3, Croydon 1; Walthamstow Avenue 5, Boreham Wood 1; Woking 4, Carshalton 1. First division: Aveley 0, Metropolitan Police 0; Hampton 2, Clapton 0; Hertford 1, Wembley 3; Maidenhead 3, Farnborough 2; St Albans 1, Ware 0; Tilbury 1, Hornchurch 1; Walton and Hersham 0, Bognor Regis 0. Second division: Cheshunt 2, Letchworth 0; Egham 2, Tring 3; Windsor 4, Hemel Hempstead 0; Epping Town 1, Finchley 2.

BERKS AND BUCKS SENIOR CUP: Second round: Slough 6, Didcot 0.

LONDON SENIOR CUP: Third qualifying round: Epsom 3, Welling 1.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Lancing 1, Steyning GS 1.

SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: First round: Lewes 5, Hanock 0.

HOCKEY: London League: St Albans 1, Cambridge University 0. Representative match: United Banks HA 0, Civil Service 0. International match: India 4, Pakistan 3.

When a forward line rolled off the tongue like the jingle of spurs

An oval-eyed passing glance at soccer

Rugby has interested me for almost as long as I can remember. Football I have followed from afar. Rugby people are supposed to know as little about football as footballers about rugby but as a matter of fact I know a fair amount about football, superficially, at any rate.

I am rather good at the name game. Ask me Scotland's Wembley Wizards forward line of 1928 and Jackson, Dunn, Gallacher, James and Morton will roll off my tongue like an incantation. Ask me the great Hibernian forward line of the 1950s and Smith, Johnstone, Reilly, Turnbull and Ormond will be a symphony in the ears of those who remember them.

And just to prove that I am not insular, did not Matthews, Taylor, Mortensen, Mudie and Perry help Blackpool win the FA Cup in 1953 and Jones, White, Smith, Allen and Dyson lead Tottenham Hotspur to the Cup and League double in 1960-61? You cannot ask about modern forward lines because there are none. There are only formations, which are not half so evocative.

I expect you would meet a blank stare if you played this little parlour game in reverse and asked a football follower to name back divisions. It would prove that the social differences between the games, though less marked than they used to be, are still an influence. Yet the Oxford University and Scotland threequarter line in 1925, Smith, Macpherson, Aitken and Wallace, were as fine and famous in rugby as the Wembley Wizards in football and the British Lions combination in 1971, Davies, Gibson, Dawes and Duckham, were as capable of magic as the Real Madrid of Puskas and di Stefano.

Social differences or no, the sport that holds you lifelong is more than likely to be the one you learnt at school. I went to a rugby-playing school but in our junior years, long before mini-rugby was thought of, we played football. I do not think I enjoyed the compulsory change, when we were about 12, from football to rugby, at both of which I was a dunce, and it was a while before I nerved myself to the new, riskier and more complicated game. Some never do. Kevin Keegan has said that he played rugby in his youth but after many a manhandling "saw the light" and concentrated on football.

Between leaving school and entering real life—that is to say, in the British Army of the Rhine—I had three experiences of football. I was pressed into playing once, at Sennelager. When my unit were involved in some species of cup-tie I travelled by lorry to watch them lose at Mönchen Gladbach. Best of all, beside a radio in Berlin, I won a small bet that Blackpool would beat Bolton Wanderers in the 1953 FA Cup Final—a bet laid when Blackpool were 1-3 down with 20 minutes to go. Little wonder I remember Blackpool's forward line and that Mortensen scored three goals.

I have rarely gone to a football match just to pass the time. I needed a reason. Something special was at stake; it was an occasion beyond the norm, an eminent or legendary player was on view.

I have been at Highbury twice. The first time was in the late 1950s. Arsenal were playing Blackpool, for whom Matthews, in the evening of his career, was on the right wing. Doubtless there were others in the crowd that Saturday who, like me, came solely to see Matthews. I do not recollect that he did much, and even if he had done more the chances are I would not have appreciated it. It is strange how, knowing next to nothing of this or that art, we still go out of our way to watch the greatest artists as though we know a great deal.

Nor was my second visit to Highbury, about 15 years later, specifically to see Arsenal. I wanted to see Best, Law and Charlton playing for Manchester United. Again I was deprived, which served me right for being a snob about names. Arsenal won 4—0 and for all that Best, Law and Charlton achieved I might have been watching a game on Hackney marshes.

When Crystal Palace played their first match in the first division Manchester United were the opposition and I crossed London to Selhurst Park. Best, Law and Charlton were less anonymous then and the result was 2—2—almost a triumph for Palace in the circumstances. I suppose I was lucky to get in and from the back of the dense crowd at the railway end I could catch only glimpses of the play between the heads and shoulders of spectators.

Probably the most significant match I have seen in the flesh was at White Hart Lane on a spring night in 1961. Tottenham, in the season of their Cup and League double, needed to beat Sheffield Wednesday to win the League. They did, 2—1. I think Wednesday scored first. Then, too, I was lucky to get in. North London was a foreign country to me at the time and Tottenham High Road on a night like that was no place for neutrals. I was condemned to an uttermost corner of the ground, high up.

Being a Scot, by birth if not conviction, I have seen Celtic and Rangers but never playing each other. I have also seen Raith Rovers, which is not so common. The only football match I ever reported was between Raith and, I fancy, Kilmarnock at Stark's Park, Kirkcaldy. My report for a Scottish newspaper, was cut and rewritten beyond recognition.

Gordon Allan

Rugby League

British selectors raise an eyebrow or two

By Keith Macklin

There are two selections to raise the eyebrows in the Great Britain team to meet France at Hull on Sunday, December 6.

In the case of the first—Widnes scrum half, Andy Gregory—the reference to eyebrows is in one respect unfortunate, since a contributory factor is an eye injury to Steve Nash, the experienced Salford scrum half, which he received playing against Wales.

Nash may be advised to quit the game as the injury is a recurrence of one he received against Australia. Nash's misfortune helps crown a remarkable rise to prominence by the young Widnes half back, who got into the side only when Reg Bowden went to Fulham at the start of last season.

The other talking point is the choice of Eddie Szymala, the Barrow hooker and recently utility forward, as substitute forward. Szymala has built up a naughty-boy reputation, is known to have an explosive temper and has spent several periods under suspension.

GREAT BRITAIN: Fairbairn (Hull KR); Drummond (Leigh), Smith (Hull KR), Woods (Leigh), Gill (Wigan); Hartley (Hull KR), Gregory (Widnes); Grayshon (Bradford Northern), Ward (Leeds, captain), Skerrett (Hull), L Gorley (Widnes), P Gorley (St Helens), Norton (Hull). Subs: Burke (Widnes), Szymala (Barrow). Reserve to travel: Watkinson (Hull KR).

FRANCE: M Pillon; S Rodriguez, C Laumond, S Costals, L Girardet; E Waligunda, G Alard; R Daniel, C Macalli, J Cine, M Ambert, B Pougn, J Roosebrouck. Reserves: H Ratier, T Bernabe.

Cyclocross

Wreghitt comes home to face world champion

By John Wilcockson

Milos Fisera, the world amateur cyclo-cross champion, is to compete in the final event of the national trophy series, sponsored by Halfords, at Sutton Park, Birmingham, next Saturday.

Fisera, from Czechoslovakia, won his title last February at Tolosa, in northern Spain, by outsprinting the Polish champion, Grzegor Jaroszewski, after a race-long duel in torrential rain. The Pole is also to race at Sutton Park.

The leader of the Halfords series is the British champion, Chris Wreghitt, who returns from racing in Switzerland, where in recent weeks he has beaten both Zweifel and Jaroszewski. Wreghitt has improved immeasurably since finishing twenty-ninth, behind Fisera, at Tolosa and this week's race should give a clear indication of his form, just two months away from the 1982 world championships, at Lanarvilly, in Brittany.

Robin Hamilton

In an article concerning Aston Martin and Nimrod Racing Automobiles (November 20), Mr Robin Hamilton was wrongly referred to as the son of Mr Duncan Hamilton, the former Le Mans winner. He is the son of Mr Gerald Hamilton.

Cricket

England concentrate on experts at the limited-over game

Ahmedabad, Nov 24.—Jack Richards and Geoff Cook, both able to score runs quickly, will surprisingly make their first international appearances when England meet India in a 50 over game here tomorrow.

They are preferred to Chris Tavaré and Bob Taylor, who are both expected to play in the first Test, beginning at Bombay on Friday.

The England captain, Keith Fletcher, also plumps for a longer batting line-up with Gatting brought in as a sixth batsman in place of the spinner Emburey. Also the more consistent Lever is given the vote over Dilley, who has had no-ball problems.

Tavaré has scored 210 runs in four innings and was thought certain to play but Fletcher says: "Cook comes into the team instead of Tavaré because it is a one-day game. I've spoken to Chris who is playing well at the moment in three-day games and will obviously be in contention for the Test.

"Mentally Chris feels that he is right for the Test match and we will leave him to concentrate on that job. It was a selectors' decision but one that Chris agreed with."

Fletcher also stressed that Lever had been preferred to Dilley and Underwood given the spinners' role rather than Emburey because of their greater experience of one-day cricket.

"With Derek Underwood and John Lever it was a personal choice," Fletcher said. "Although John Emburey is a great bowler I personally think Derek is one of the best limited over bowlers in the world and that gave him the edge."

The England captain added that Gooch would be called up to use his medium pace as a fifth bowler.

The England side was finalized after a visit to the Ahmedabad Stadium this morning. There they found a green pitch with some bare patches to assist their seam bowlers.

The only player to miss net practice this morning was Boycott who stayed in the hotel nursing a slight groin strain.

While England were able to pick from a fully fit squad the Indians have problems and will not announce their final line-up before tomorrow.

Sandeep Patil has pulled out with an ankle injury and Roger Binny, who played against England at Nagpur, has been called into the squad.

There is also a doubt about India's premier all-rounder, Kapil Dev, who is said to have a groin strain.

The England captain is happy with his line-up but his players are unhappy with the Indian cricket authorities who have refused to make concessions over playing conditions for the one-day international.

It is the first occasion that the Indians have staged a limited over match between two countries. But they have not been prepared to accept advice from the tourists despite their great experience of this type of cricket.

Three key issues divided the two sides: The Indians wanted the matches played over 50 overs and have stuck to that demand. The English wanted 45 overs to avoid early morning dew affecting the wicket and poor light bringing a premature end to the game—it gets dark here about six in the evening.

Subba Row, the England manager, wanted fielding restrictions brought for each innings in line with the domestic Benson and Hedges Cup.

The Indians have insisted that fielding restrictions be limited to the first 15 overs with the umpires having a discretionary say on what constitutes the two necessary close fielders.

Finally, England required the playing day to be split into three two-hour periods but the game will now be played in two periods of three-and-a-half hours before and after lunch. Subba Row, said: "We put our point of view forward to the Indian Board. But at the end of the day we are playing in India and we have to do as the board says".

Subba Row has been trying to reach a compromise since the tourists left Bombay for the countryside nearly two weeks ago. But the Indian board failed to arrange a meeting during that period. It was only last night when the team arrived in this more industrialized city that Indian officials turned up at the England hotel to tell Subba Row there could be no alterations: Fletcher says: "We know where we stand, so now we have just got to go out there and get on with it".

INDIA (from): S M Gavaskar (captain), K Srikkanth, D B Vengsarkar, G R Viswanath, S M Patil, Kapil Dev, S Madan Lal, S M H Kirmani, R Shastri, Randhir Singh, D R Doshi, Kirti Azad.

ENGLAND: G Boycott, G A Gooch, G Cook, D I Gower, K W R Fletcher (captain), M W Gatting, I T Botham, C J Richards, J K Lever, D L Underwood, R G Willis.

Laird is master of West Indies

Sydney, Nov 24.—Bruce Laird, the Australian opener, hit 117 not out as the West Indies were beaten in the World Series Cup here today.

Laird inspired a fine recovery which helped Australia to a seven-wicket win with two overs to spare at 237 for three after the West Indies had made 236 for eight in 49 overs.

Australia beat the masters of international one-day cricket after losing their first two wickets for eight.

Darling was caught behind by Murray off an attempted hook against Holding for five and Chappell, the captain, continued a sequence of low scores when he was trapped leg before by Roberts for one.

Laird launched the revival by putting on 82 in 73 minutes for the third wicket with Border, who made 29. The tempo was sustained against the West Indies' fast bowling attack by Laird and Hughes, who shared an unbroken fourth wicket partnership of 147.

Hughes scored 62 not out, including six fours, off 74 balls and Laird hit 10 fours.

The West Indies built a good score under the influence of a captain's innings of 63 from 59 deliveries by Lloyd. Lloyd and Richards, who struck 47, shared a fourth wicket partnership of 72 which tilted the balance after Thomson had reduced the touring team from 64 without loss to 98 for three in a four-over burst.

The West Indian counter attack came in the face of fine fielding in which Darling was outstanding. Australia bowled 49 overs in the first session instead of 50 and were fined A$600 (£350) for not completing the normal quota.

Australia, the West Indies and Pakistan each have one win from two games in the triangular tournament. They each play 10 matches with the top two qualifying for a best-of-five final starting in January.—Reuter.

WEST INDIES

C G Greenidge, b Thomson .. 39
D L Haynes, c and b Thomson .. 30
I V A Richards, run out .. 47
S F A Bacchus, c Hughes, b Thomson .. 4
*C H Lloyd, c Thomson, b Lawson .. 63
†D A Murray, c Graf, b Lawson .. 5
M D Marshall, not out .. 16
A M E Roberts, run out .. 15
J Garner, lbw, b Alderman .. 1
M A Holding, not out .. 2
Extras (l-b 7, w 5, n-b 2) .. 14

Total (8 wkts, 49 overs) .. 236

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—64, 2—89, 3—98, 4—170, 5—197, 6—197, 7—229, 8—232.

BOWLING: Lawson, 10—2—28—2; Alderman, 10—0—35—1; Thomson, 10—0—56—3; Graf, 9—0—56—0; Chappell, 10—0—48—0.

AUSTRALIA

B M Laird, not out .. 117
W N Darling, c Murray, b Holding .. 5
*G S Chappell, lbw, b Roberts .. 1
A R Border, run out .. 29
K J Hughes, not out .. 62
Extras (b 1, l-b 13, w 4, n-b 5) 23

Total (3 wkts, 47 overs) .. 237

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—7, 2—8, 3—90.

BOWLING: Holding, 10—0—34—1; Roberts, 9—0—44—1; Marshall, 10—0—45—0; Garner, 9—0—43—0; Croft, 9—0—48—0.

Zaheer still the master despite injury

Canberra, Nov 24.—Zaheer Abbas is still uncertain about his chances of playing for Pakistan in the second Test match against Australia despite scoring an unbeaten 91 in the drawn match against the Capital Territory today.

Zaheer, who missed the first Test because of a fractured rib, said: "I am hoping to be fit as I feel the team needs me. But I will not play if I am not 100 per cent as this would be unfair to the rest of the team."

He planned another visit to the doctor for a check-up on his injury.

Zaheer, whose stylish batting was badly missed by the Pakistanis in the first Test which they lost, often clutched his ribs while running between the wickets today.

But the injury did not appear to affect his stroke play. His 91 out of the tourists' second innings score of 153 for three came in only 103 minutes, his last 41 runs in 21 minutes.

There was little hope of a decision in the game and the Pakistanis used the remaining period for batting practice, finishing on 153 for three in only 113 minutes.

The tour reinforcement, Mohsin Khan, batted impressively before he was run out for 22 in 83 minutes after opening the innings with Mansoor Akhtar.

Zaheer and the gifted Salim Malek put on 85 runs in only 29 minutes in a run feast before the close of play.

Earlier Bulger had put some sting into the Capital Territory's first innings with a dashing innings of 42 in 47 minutes. The home team declared at 200 for seven in reply to the Pakistani's first innings score of 200 for six declared.

In Melbourne today the middle order batsman, Yallop, passed a fitness test and keeps his place in the Australian 12 for the second Test starting in Brisbane on Friday.

He was unavailable for Australia's first two world series cup matches because of a stress fracture in the back.

PAKISTANIS: First Innings, 200 for 6 dec (Saleem Malik 51 not out)

Second Innings

Mansoor Akhtar, c Bowler, b Radcliffe .. 10
Mohsin Khan, run out .. 23
*Zaheer Abbas, not out .. 91
Saleem Malik, run out .. 29
Extras (w-1) .. 1

Total (3 wkts) .. 153

Sikander Bakht, Tahir Naqash, Rizwan-uz-Zaman, Wasim Raja, Mudassar Nazar, †Wasim Bari, Iqbal Qasim did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—17, 2—68, 3—153.

BOWLING: Radcliffe, 6—0—21—1; Nix, 9—1—35—0; Bulger, 4—1—6—0; Irvine, 6—0—30—0; Rizvi, 5—0—33—0; Khan, 1.3—0—16—0; Bowler, 1—0—11—0.

CAPITAL TERRITORY: First Innings

P Bowler, c Mohsin, b Wasim Raja .. 42
G Roberts, b Wasim Raja .. 6
P O'Reilly, c Mansoor, b Wasim Raja .. 22
*R Rogers, c Bari, b Qasim .. 18
T Khan, b Tahir .. 21
G Irvine, b Saleem .. 33
N Bulger, c Sikander, b Saleem .. 42
E Nix, not out .. 3
†C Rowe, not out .. 0
Extras (lb-5, nb-9) .. 14

Total (7 wkts dec) .. 200

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—20, 2—73, 3—87, 4—103, 5—145, 6—196, 7—199.

BOWLING: Sikander Bakht, 8—3—15—0; Tahir Naqash, 18—5—69—1; Wasim Raja, 28—12—49—3; Iqbal Qasim, 33—6—59—1; Rizwan-uz-Zaman, 1.5—0—5—0; Saleem Malik, 2—0—19—2.—Reuter.

Racing

Night Nurse to give Silver Buck a dose of his own medicine at last

By Michael Seely

Night Nurse can beat his old rival, Silver Buck, for the first ever time at Haydock Park in the Edward Hanmer Memorial steeplechase this afternoon. The dual champion hurdler finished 10 lengths in front of Silver Buck when they were second and third to Little Owl in the Cheltenham Gold Cup last March.

However, at his peak Silver Buck is virtually unbeatable over three miles or less on park courses and Night Nurse had to give best to Dickinson's champion in both the Embassy Premier final and the Edward Hanmer in 1979. But with Silver Buck under a cloud after his disappointing run when falling behind Straight Jocelyn at Chepstow, it may be safer to side with Peter Easterby's old warrior on this occasion.

Night Nurse has already proved his well being by cantering home in the ATV Today Steeplechase at Worcester at the end of October. He had little to beat, but could hardly have accomplished his task more smoothly. Tim Easterby rode him that afternoon, but Alan Brown will be in the saddle today.

John Francome will be on board Silver Buck. Explaining his decision yesterday, Michael Dickinson said: "Wayward Lad may go for the Peterborough Chase at Huntingdon. If he wins that well he could still join Silver Buck in a double stable assault on the King George VI Steeplechase. Wayward Lad is Robert Earnshaw's ride. And if they both go to Kempton we would like John to be on Silver Buck if Fred Winter does not require his services.

This is not a two-horse affair. Both Royal Bond and Sunset Cristo are forces to be reckoned with. Royal Bond is one of the best young chasers in Ireland as he showed when beating his compatriot, Royal Dipper, in the Lambert and Butler final at Ascot last January. Subsequently a strongly fancied candidate for the Gold Cup, Royal Bond put himself out of contention with a bad mistake and was pulled up two fences from home. The eight-year-old ran well over hurdles on his reappearance and is sure to be ready to do himself justice today.

Sunset Cristo is the horse who beat Silver Buck by a length at Catterick last December. He was in receipt of nearly two and a half stone on that occasion, but although he continued to show improved form afterwards, Sunset Cristo may now be a trifle too close to class horses in the weights.

Dickinson is in one of his "Hamlet" moods about Silver Buck as he thinks that the horse is sure to need the race. It sometimes pays to disregard the trainer when he feels like this as he was talking in a similar vein before Wayward Lad romped home at Ascot last Saturday. But it must be right to side with Night Nurse's proven racecourse fitness.

The chief supporting race is the Sporting Chronicle Handicap Book Northern Hurdle. Krug is the obvious selection in view of his public record, but any market move for Christmas Greeting should be noted as Easterby's three-year-old is reported to have been jumping well in his schooling at home. After his decisive victory at Cheltenham, Spinning Saint can hardly be opposed in the opening Wigan Novices Chase.

The shape of the field for the first long distance classic of the season, the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury on Saturday began to take shape yesterday. Night Nurse and Royal Bond head the list of 19 acceptors. Presumably they will not run so Diamond Edge will have to shoulder 11st 10lb if the weights are raised at the overnight stage of declarations. Royal Mail has been rerouted from Haydock to Newbury and Steve Jobar will ride in the absence of the injured Philip Blacker.

Diamond Edge remains favourite at around 5-1. Political Pop is top quoted at 8-1 and Royal Mail at 12-1. The betting varies with all the leading firms, thus reflecting the open nature of the race.

My preference is for Political Pop and Diamond Edge. "Hamlet" says that Political Pop's stamina is doubtful judged on pedigree, but this is an improving young horse with all the right credentials for the race. And although Diamond Edge's rugged battling qualities seem best suited by the stiff uphill finish at Sandown, Fulke Walwyn's dual Whitbread Gold Cup winner is one of the best steeple chasers in the country on his day. Shady Deal, Straight Jocelyn, Doddington Park and Royal Dipper are other well fancied candidates for a short list as the big day approaches.

HENNESSY GOLD CUP ACCEPTORS: Night Nurse, Royal Bond, Diamond Edge, Lesley Ann, Captain John, Sunset Cristo, Straight Jocelyn, Royal Dipper, Approaching, Master Smudge, Sparkie's Choice, Sugarally, Royal Mail, Doddington Park, Two Swallows, Political Pop, Man Alive, Shady Deal, Right Mingle.

STATE OF GOING (official): Haydock Park: chase course—good, hurdles—good but good to firm in straight. Ludlow: good. Tomorrow: Wincanton: good to soft.

New owner for Sweet Mimosa

A date with the first-season stallion Kings Lake at the Coolmore Stud in Ireland awaits Sweet Mimosa, who cost Mr C. J. Tracey, a businessman, 122,000 guineas at the Goff's November sales in Co Kildare yesterday. The bidding was conducted by John Magnier, who said: "Mr Tracey has a share in the Barronstown Stud, which is Sweet Mimosa's immediate destination. Then she will be sent to Kings Lake".

The 14-year-old, by Le Levanstell, is in foal to Hello Gorgeous, who has just completed his own first season at stud.

Luxuriate opens account

A 400-mile round trip and a drop in class brought the American-bred Luxuriate his first win of the season in the Mowbray Handicap Hurdle at Southwell yesterday. The Ian Wardle-trained four-year-old, whose best performance was when he won the March Hare Hurdle at Newbury last spring, should score again at Newton Abbot next Tuesday on yesterday's showing.

Michael Williams made up ground rapidly on him from three flights out to head Lottie Lehmann on the run-in and win by a length and a half. The pair finished clear of Sandicliffe.

The stewards inquired into the running and riding of Nashita, who was tailed off before being pulled up. They accepted the explanation of the trainer, Joe Mulhall, and his son, a former York City footballer Clive, who rode the mare, that she was never going well after being cannoned into at the start and was pulled up when it was thought that she was lame.

Wardle was expected to bring off a double with Slaney in division two of the Quarry Novices' Chase, but the 5-4 on favourite could get no nearer than fourth behind the 10-1 winner, Biv.

Price views Morice as Cheltenham prospect

Plumpton in the mud is hardly an orthodox launching pad for a *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle hope. However, Ryan Price chose the November Novices Hurdle (division two) to introduce his smart Flat performer, Morice, and in testing conditions, the colt won by three lengths from Coal Bunker.

Jumping rather stickily in the holding ground, Morice, an even-money chance, was only third behind Coal Bunker and Chummy's Best at the final flight, but then swung his superior speed to draw away for an impressive success. Morice, who cost 5,600 guineas as a yearling, gave Price his first success of the season.

"Morice loathed the ground and may end up as a Triumph horse," said Price, who with four victories in the juvenile championship to his credit knows exactly what is needed for Cheltenham. "This colt has had no racing, its only his fifth outing and he has now won three times. Like all my horses he came right at the end of the Flat season when he ran out of time."

Full Sutton followed up his recent success at Windsor with an easy win in the Moussec Wines Novices Chase. The big New Zealand horse set off to make all the running and Peter Haynes had his only anxious moment when Ragafan headed him three fences out. But the 11-10 favourite was back in front going to the last and stayed there.

"In the weeks prior to Windsor this horse had two bits of work and improved no less than 4st. I couldn't credit it and when I told Peter he'd win there he didn't believe me," Derek Kent, the trainer, said.

Students of point-to-pointing could have reaped a rich dividend, especially as John Francome was involved, when Integration upset the recent course winner, White Heron, in the Galleano Challenge Cup. Integration caught the odds-on White Heron with two fences left and was not pressed to score by four lengths.

Integration ran in six point-to-points in the West Country last season and won all but one. He also won the Tom Cundy Memorial Trophy at Devon and Exeter in May. He is owned by Edward Retter, a cattle dealer, who trains three jumpers under permit at Sidmouth.

Haydock Park programme

Tote double: 2.0 and 3.0. Treble: 1.30, 2.30 & 3.30

1.0 WIGAN CHASE (Novices: £1,899: 2m) (8 runners)

1 412031 SPINNING SAINT (D), (B Babbage) Mrs M Babbage, 7-11-12 .Mr N Babbage 7
2 00-1131 NO HURRY (D), (Alex Ross Ltd) Mrs M Rimell, 5-11-10 ....S Morshead
3 122203 CLOWN COURT (D), (R Henriques) J Berry, 6-11-7 ....J Hansen 7
5 p0p/pf- BLUE CAP, (Mrs J Lilley) A Lilley, 8-11-2 ....S O'Neill
7 0100-0p MANELEC, (Manelec Ltd) J Townson, 7-11-2 ....C Tinkler
8 003234 METROLANDS, (Metrolands Investments Ltd) J Edwards, 6-11-2 ....Mr J Bryan 7
10 000000 LAZEROF, (Miss S Lavery) M James, 5-11-0 ....M Brisbourne
11 0-13a02 MASTER PIPER, (J Banks) J Jefferson, 5-11-0 ....N Doughty

15-8 Spinning Saint, 9-4 No Hurry, 9-2 Clown Court, 7 Master Piper, 10 Metrolands, 16 Lazerof, 25 others

1.30 BILLINGE HURDLE (Novices: £1,074: 2m) (11)

2 01 PHOENIX PRINCE (D), (Phoenix Waterproofing Ltd) J FitzGerald, 4-11-2 ....P Charlton
4 020-1 RAG DANCER, (Mrs M Fletcher) W Elsey, 4-11-2 ....A Flint
7 ASTOR BOY, (Miss F Reed) Mrs A Cousins, 9-11-0 ....P Barry
8 0000 BOLD SELECTION, (Mrs C Rees) J Wilson, 5-11-0 ....Mrs G Rees 4
9 3323 BRADAMANTE, (Ld Lambton) Denys Smith, 5-11-0 ....C Grant
11 0 KILNINVER, (R Leadbetter) M James, 5-11-0 ....M Brisbourne
13 /30002- MALAYSIAN RUBBER, (P Seddon) M Cousins, 7-11-0 ....J Hansen 7
14 000-00 MOUNT EATON, (D Davison) P Asquith, 5-11-0 ....W Dudley 7
22 0 MOYDRUM, (M Tate) M Tate, 4-10-9 ....Mr C Crozier 4
23 0 NORTHERN KNIGHT, (Knight Security 'Northern' Ltd) J Berry, 4-10-9 .... —
26 ROYAL MERE, (Sir J Hanmer) Mrs M Rimell, 4-10-9 ....S Morshead

2 Rag Dancer, 11-4 Phoenix Prince, 4 Bradamante, 6 Royal Mere, 7 Northern Knight, 14 Mount Eaton, 20 others.

2.00 EDWARD HANMER CHASE (Handicap: £7,166: 3m) (5)

1 3322-01 NIGHT NURSE, (R Spencer) M H Easterby, 10-12-0 ....A Brown
2 2113-11 SILVER BUCK (CD), (Mrs C Feather) M Dickinson, 9-11-12 ....J Francome
3 114p2-3 ROYAL BOND (D), (Mrs G Malcolmson) A Moore (Ire), 8-11-5 ....T Carberry
4 11430-4 SUNSET CRISTO (CD), (Miss C Hawkey) R Hawkey, 7-10-13 ....C Grant
7 f1/21-p SALKELD (D), (E Bell) N Crump, 9-10-7 ....C Hawkins

7-4 Nurse Nurse, 15-8 Silver Buck, 5-2 Royal Bond, 12 Sunset Cristo, 20 Salkeld.

2.30 SPORTING CHRONICLE HURDLE, (3-y-o handicap: £3,069: 2½m) (12)

1 1122 KRUG, (S Tindall) S Mellor, 11-4 ....S Jobar
2 204 ATLANTA LADY, (A Ridout) A Ridout, 11-0 ....S Morshead
3 010341 BOLD ILLUSION, (W Donohue) A W Jones, 11-0 ....Miss D Jones
4 0310 BRASS CHANGE, (N Goodliff) I Dudgeon, 11-0 ....G McCourt
5 CHRISTMAS GREETING, (Lt-Col R Warden) M H Easterby, 11-0 ....Mr T Easterby
6 CORNISHMAN, (Mrs D Jardine) R Hollinshead, 11-0 ....C Astbury
7 00 COVENT GARDEN, (G Parton) W Clay, 11-0 ....N Clay
8 0 HADDIE'S LADDIE, (R Jones) R Jones, 11-0 ....M Brisbourne
9 p0 KANISA, (W J Smith) W J Smith, 11-0 ....D Wilkinson
10 300 MR MONEY BAGS, (R Morris) R Morris, 11-0 ....F Morris
11 0 MUSTAPHA, (T Ramadan) M Camacho, 11-0 ....D Oldham
13 TUDORVILLE, (E Harvey) K Stone, 11-0 ....C Tinkler

13-8 Krug, 11-4 Christmas Greeting, 9-2 Cornishman, 8 Bold Illusion, 12 Mustapha, 16 Brass Change, 20 others

3.0 COUNTY CHASE (Handicap: £2,536: 2½m) (7)

2 2-41144 MY BUCK (CD), (T Curry) M Dickinson, 9-12-4 ....G Bradley 4
6 312-11p HALLO DANDY (CD), (J Thompson) G Richards, 7-10-13 ....R Barry
7 1f4100/ BIG GINGER (C), (P Baillie) M H Easterby, 7-10-13 ....A Brown
8 30-0000 NETHERTON (CD), (Mrs L Jeffrey) R Jeffrey, 8-10-9 ....Mr R Shiels 7
10 10-1a03 SAINT TAFFY (B), (Mrs L Drasher) J Webber, 5-10-9 ....A Webber
12 41ff2p- FIXED PRICE (C), (Mrs B Kearney) Mrs M Rimell, 7-10-5 ....S Morshead
13 34-0042 GORDON'S LAD (CD), (Mrs C Rees) J Wilson, 7-10-3 ....Mrs G Rees

5-2 My Buck, 7-2 Fixed Price, 9-2 Hallo Dandy, 5 Saint Taffy, 6 Gordon's Lad, 12 Big Ginger, 20 Netherton.

3.30 BRYN HURDLE (Handicap: £878: 2m) (10)

1 2111bo APPLE WINE (D), (Mrs A Sigsworth) M W Easterby, 4-11-10 ....P Tuck
2 03-40p BRAVE JACK (CD), (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs Rimell, 5-11-9 ....S Morshead
3 b3-11 NICKADVENTURE (D), (N Heslop) N Tinkler, 5-10-12 ....N Tinkler
5 4-0004 MR MOONRAKER (D), (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris, 4-10-8 ....M O'Halloran
9 2430-0 HODSON HERO (D), (J Eardley) R Fisher, 5-10-1 ....K Teelan 7
11 1403-0 SUNLIT RIVER, (W Carrick) W Haigh, 4-10-0 ....P Charlton
12 1213/ DIBBINSDALE LAD (D), (Cheshire Hotels Ltd) C Crossley, 5-10-0 ....C Grant
14 0123/0 ROINEVAL (D), (M Tate) M Tate, 8-10-0 ....Mr C Crozier 4
16 1-0003 BLEATHWOOD, (R Jennaway) K White, 5-10-0 ....C Smith
17 00430- COLD BLOOD, (Mrs T Hassell) K White, 5-10-0 ....G McCourt

3 Nickadventure, 7-2 Apple Wine, 9-2 Brave Jack, 6 Dibbinsdale Lad, 8 Hodson Hero, 10 Sunlit River, 12 Roineval, 16 Mr Moonraker, 20 others.

Haydock Park selections

By Michael Seely

1.0 Spinning Saint. 1.30 Bradamante. 2.0 Night Nurse. 2.30 Krug. 3.0 My Buck. 3.30 Mr. Moonraker.

Ludlow programme

12.45 TEME CHASE (Novices: £6.40: 2m) (15 runners)

3 314010 ALTAGHADERRY RUN, (B Johnson) D Wintle, 6-110 ....R Hyett
4 2-0021 CAPVISTA, (N Stephens) J Spearing, 6-11-0 ....S Johnson 4
6 000-00 CASHED IN, (C Cottrell) K White, 5-11-0 ....J Burke
8 32100- COTTAGE RHYTHM, (C Knipe) C Knipe, 5-11-0 ....Mr A Sharpe
9 /400-b HENFOLD LAD (B), (A Wates) A Wates, 5-11-0 ....R Rowe
11 210-00 IF AND WHEN (B), (R Lewis) J Pridy, 6-11-0 ....G Jones
14 320-34 LAURENSUN, (Mrs D Black) Mrs D Black, 6-11-0 ....P Hobbs
16 0-1fpp LLACCA PADDY, (M Eckley) M Eckley, 6-11-0 ....A O'Hagan 7
17 p0/p- LUMPARITA, (A Aylett) A Aylett, 6-11-0 .... —
18 -0prp0 MASTER SPORT, (L Grouse) D Grandolfo, 5-11-0 ....P Barton
21 3342fp RAG TIME BAND, (A Freeth) A Chamberlain, 6-11-9 ....Mr A Chamberlain 7
22 300-0 ROMANY NIGHTSHADE, (R Steed) T Forster, 5-11-0 ....H Davies
23 0000-3 SIXSHOOTER, (Mrs S Castell) R Juckes, 6-11-0 ....Mr M Castell
25 f TARTAN SPECIAL, (Mrs C Lloyd-Jones) Mrs C Lloyd-Jones, 6-11-0 ....Mrs C Lloyd-Jones 7
26 0/30-p TONTO BOY, (D Harrison) J Bradley, 5-11-0 ....G Davies 4

2 Capvista, 100-30 Laurenson, 5 If and When, 8 Altaghaderry Run, 10 Rag Time Band, Llacca Paddy, 12 Sixshooter, 14 others.

1.15 HALFORD HURDLE (Novices: £276: 2m) (18)

1 000-01 FATHER FLASH (C-D), (D Williams) B Palling, 6-11-10 ....C Candy
2 00 ANDY REW, (Mrs E Preece) B Preece, 8-11-0 ....Mr S Dickin 7
4 2-0 BARLEY BRAKE, (G Lugg) T Forster, 5-11-0 ....H Davies
5 BOWBRIDGE LADY, (D Fletcher) D Fletcher, 6-11-0 .... —
10 f FERRARI PARKS, (A Hollingsworth) A Hollingsworth, 7-11-0 ....Mr R Woolley
11 0 GAYVUS, (Mrs J Fraser) Mrs J Fraser, 7-11-0 ....M Floyd
13 30/ MARKIE, (K Babbington) R E Peacock, 5-11-0 ....P Scudamore
14 MITIGATOR, (A Parton) S Holland, 5-11-0 ....S Holland
15 p NUN OWEN, (C Hughes) G H Price, 5-11-0 .... —
19 TRIAL ROMANCE, (G Jones) G E Jones, 6-11-0 ....Mr C Beasley 7
21 pp-0 VALKYR, (S Ruff) J Peacock, 5-11-0 ....G Evans 7
24 00 DRAKES COURT, (P Ditchburn) C Miller, 4-10-10 ....C Kinane
27 0 NOW MY BOY, (Mrs M Jackson) Mrs M Jackson, 4-10-10 .... —
30 p SEVERN COURT, (H Pugh) H Pugh, 4-10-10 ....M Brisbourne
32 SIR VINCE, (W Morgan) W Morgan, 4-10-10 ....P Double 7
33 p SMITE HILL, (J Weston) M Oliver, 4-10-10 ....Mr J R Weston 4
34 STRING, (R Nicklin) R Juckes, 4-10-10 ....P Carvill 4
35 0- TANGLO, (T Richards) D H Jones, 4-10-10 ....C Seward 4

9-4 Father Flash, 3 Mitigator, 9-2 Barley Brake, 5 Andy Rew, 8 Markie, 10 Tanglo, 12 others.

1.45 TOWERS WILSON CHASE (Handicap: £1,752: 2½m) (11)

1 312213- SOINTULLA BOY (C), (Mrs H Houlbrooke) Mrs H Houlbrooke, 6-11-12 ....Mr T Houlbrooke 4
3 4201-00 GAMBLING PRINCE, (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones, 8-11-9 ....P Scudamore
4 0p01-0b OWENIUS, (C-D), (Maincrest Ltd) D Barons, 11-11-4 ....S Cargeeg 7
5 30109-0 PIZZA (C-D), (Mrs S Green) N Gaselee, 10-10-10 ....M Floyd
6 213244 GIN N' LIME (D), (D Coombs) C Miller, 7-10-2 ....C Kinane
7 21001-2 CHORAL FESTIVAL, (M Low) M Low, 10-10-2 ....Mr M Low 7
8 03111- JO COLOMBO (D), (B O'Brien) W Jenks, 6-10-1 ....R F Davies
9 143242 PRINCE OF NORMANDY (C-D), (H Gittins) H Gittins, 8-10-0 ....M Coyle 4
10 111-002 GO FREE (D), (S Jones) B Cambridge, 8-10-0 .... —
11 001f14- MOONSHOT, (C MacSwiney) T Forster, 7-10-0 ....H Davies
14 004-301 RUPERTINO, (Mrs B Heaton) E Owen jun, 8-10-0 (7 ex) ....M Elliott 4

3 Sointulla Boy, 4 Gambling Prince, 11-2 Rupertino, 7 Choral Festival, 8 Owenius, Pizza, 10 Jo Colombo, 12 Prince of Normandy, 14 others.

2.15 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE, (Qualifier: novices: £1,494: 2m) (14)

2 12 BROADHEATH, (Mrs S Tainton) D Nicholson, 4-11-6 ....P Scudamore
6 203-120 SCOTS NOGGER (D), (D Spearing) J Spearing, 6-11-5 ....A Webb
8 -300- COSMIC OCCASION, (M Reid) M Reid, 6-11-0 ....P Carvill 4
13 0 HELTON TARN, (G MacDonald) D Gandolfo 5-11-0 ....P Barton
14 0 HOT SPIRIT, (Miss R Dudley) J Bradley, 5-11-0 ....G Davies 4
15 /p0-fpp KILBARTH, (M Spedding) S Wright, 6-11-0 ....P Hobbs
16 0 MARKET LADY, (G Jones) G E Jones, 6-11-0 ....Mr C Beasley 7
18 000-0 NORMANDY LAD, (Mrs H Attwood) W Jenks, 5-11-0 ....R F Davies
19 00 PORT WING, (G Maundrell) G Maundrell, 5-11-0 ....Mr G Maundrell
20 400- SEA PENNANT, (I Jones) G H Price, 5-11-0 .... —
22 SPARTAN LOVER, (R Coldicott) Mrs S Coldicott, 5-11-0 ....Mrs S Coldicott
25 0 COUL KANDA, (C Garratt) C Miller, 4-10-10 ....C Kinane
28 0 LICHFIELD, (D Vuzzer) P Ransom, 4-10-10 ....B R Davies
29 000-0 MASTER GREGALACH, (Mrs I Smith) M Hinchcliffe, 4-10-10 ....J Suthern

1-2 Broadheath, 4 Scots Nogger, 8 Cosmic Occasion, 10 Sea Pennant, 20 Lichfield, 33 others

2.45 LUDLOW HUGH SUMNER CHASE (Handicap: £1,250: 3m) (9)

1 003313/ BALLYROSS, (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster, 10-11-12 ....H Davies
2 1331-p3 LEWIS HOMES (D,B), (Lewis Bros) J Edwards, 7-11-7 ....P Warner
5 311-032 RAPALLO, (Mrs J Davenport) M Scudamore, 11-11-1 ....P Scudamore
12 032122 HOBO (CD), (J Price) J Price, 10-10-1 ....G Jones
14 10dp-p0 PRINCELY CALL, (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones, 7-10-0 ....J Suthern
17 2-00013 COUNTY CLARE (CD), (Mrs J Cooper) R Cooper, 12-10-0 ....R Hyett
18 b1pf0-2 BRIGHT BEACON (D), (J Daly) T Forster, 7-10-0 .... —
19 0330p0 MISS RETINUE (D), (W Sheedy) W Sheedy, 11-10-0 ....Mrs L Sheedy
20 0pa0-0f HARD AND BITTER (B), (Mrs A Price) Mrs A Price, 6-10-0 ....A O Hagan

100-30 Rapallo, 4 Lewis Homes, 11-2 Hobo, 6 Ballyross, 8 Bright Beacon, 10 Princely Call, 12 Miss Retinue, 14 County Clare, 20 Hard and Bitter

3.15 CLEEHILL HURDLE (Handicap: £1,273: 2m) (19)

6 001- PRIVATE CRAFT (D), (Mrs M Tobin) D H Jones, 4-10-13 ....C Seward 4
7 32240- DINGBAT (C-D), (A Boyce) S Wright, 5-10-13 ....P Scudamore
8 -20303 SPACE SHIP (C-D), (Mrs S Davenport) Mrs S Davenport, 7-10-11 ....P Warner
10 100-04 SALAD (D), (Mrs G Clay) G Clay, 7-10-10 ....C Jones
12 -0/ WHINNEY BRAE, (G Kindersley) G Kindersley, 7-10-7 ....
13 3-4420 ELSALL (CD), (J Smith) M Eckley, 6-10-6 ....A O Hagan 7
14 2-0033 DU MAURIER, (A Aylett) A Aylett, 8-10-5 ....M Harrington 4
16 4/404- SOMERS HEIR, (G Dudfield) D Wintle, 6-10-3 ....R Hyett
17 1300r- SWING THROUGH (D), Miss C Warwick) D Henley, 8-10-3 ....Mr W Pearce 7
18 00221- MISTY GLEN, (Mrs R Bradley) J Bradley, 6-10-2 ....G Davies 7
20 u004-0 COMBLAST (D), (H Fisher) J Peacock, 6-10-1 ....G Evans 7
21 40-000 FERNSHAW, (Mrs D Sykes) Miss B Sykes, 8-10-1 ....R Dickin
23 1410/ BIRD GAME (D), (G Maundrell) G Maundrell, 5-10-0 ....Mr G Maundrell
24 00/0-0 EARLY THIRTIES (D), (N Stephens) J Spearing, 7-10-0 ....A Webb
25 400-00 KANDACOMBE, (Mrs I Redman) R Hartop, 5-10-0 ....M Floyd
26 0-0000 GENEROUS BID (D), (Mrs K Lloyd) S Wright, 4-10-0 ....P Hobbs
29 000-00 LADYSWOOD (CD), (Dr B Coulson) K Bridgwater, 4-10-0 ....S Dobbs 7
34 -20000 HOUSE BREAKER (DB), (J Parish) W Charles, 7-10-0 ....M Charles 4
35 000-00 CHAPERON (D), (W Marson) J Harris, 5-10-0 ....J A Harris 4

3 Space Ship, 7-2 Private Call, 5 Dingbat, 6 Salad, 8 Du Maurier, Misty Glen, 10 Bird Game, 12 others.

Ludlow selections

By Michael Seely

12.45 Sixshooter. 1.15 Barley Brake. 1.45 Pizza. 2.15 Broadheath. 2.45 Hobo. 3.15 Space Ship.

Plumpton results

1.0 (1.4) NOVEMBER HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o novices: £690: 2m)

THE KNIFE, b g, by Fine Blade (USA)—Mary Kanga (R Barlow), 11-6 S Shilston (11-4 fav) 1
High Heaven .... G Moore (16-1) 2
Nepcote .... C Gwilliam (11-2) 3

TOTE: Win, 83p; places, 22p, 36p, 20p. Dual F: £28.44. CSF: £5.02. J Besley, at Bampton. 10l, hd. Kashill (33-1) 4th. 16 ran.

1.30 (1.31) "GALLEANO" CUP (Handicap Chase: £939: 2m)

INTEGRATION, b g by Vimadee—Veroni (E Retter), 7-12-7 J Francome (9-1) 1
White Heron ... R Rowe (8-11 fav) 2
Ask Me Nicely S Smith Eccles (12-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.07; places, 27p, 17p. Dual F: 57p. CSF: £1.53. E Retter, at Sidmouth. 4l, 30l. Rodney Parade (7-1) 4th. 7 ran. NR: Auream.

2.0 (2.1) RON BOLTON HURDLE (Handicap: £734: 2m)

YUKON FLASH, b h, by Yukon Eric—Headliner (Mrs G Davison), 7-10-8 M Lynn (11-4 fav) 1
Questurnia R Muggeridge (25-1) 2
Miss Mope ..... J Lovejoy (5-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 44p; places, 19p, 20p, 26p. Dual F: £8.19. CSF: £7.61. A Davison, at Caterham. 2l, 10l. Mr Linnet (12-1) 4th. 14 ran.

2.30 (2.31) MOUSSEC WINES CHASE (Novices: £1,258: 2m 3f 90yd)

FULL SUTTON, gr g, by Sovereign Charm—Our Pearl (Mrs S Powell), 8-11-3 P Haynes (11-10 fav) 1
Ragafan .... R G Hughes (16-1) 2
Hipparion ..... S Jobar (6-4) 3

TOTE: Win, 23p; places, 13p, 16p, 15p. Dual F: £2.14. CSF: £1.97. D Kent, at Chichester. 10l, 15l. Merry Meadow (16-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Halley Road.

3.0 (3.0) PETER CAZALET TROPHY (Handicap Chase: £1,707: 3m 1f)

GUN METAL, gr g, by Double U Jay—My Dayan (Mrs A Beeson) 8-9-7 .... J Akehurst (20-1) 1
Bujoli .... Mrs N Ledger (33-1) 2
Also .... G Moore (14-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £2.27; places, 46p, 49p, 13p. Dual F: £16.72. CSF: £48.13. E Beeson, at Lewes. Sh hd, 12l. Physicist 5-2 fav. Raibick 10-1 4th. 10 ran.

3.30 (3.32) NOVEMBER HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o novices: £690: 2m)

MORICE, b c, by Morston—Ardice (Mrs H Price), 10-6 G Gwilliam (evens fav) 1
Coal Bunker .. S C Knight (6-1) 2
Chummys Best P Scudamore (4-1) 3

Tote: Win, 29p; places, 16p, 27p, 20p. Dual F: 85p. CSF: 80p. H Price at Findon. 3l, 4l. Merchandiser (15-2) 4th. 18 ran. Placepot: £120.10.

Southwell

12.15 (12.15) QUARRY CHASE (Div I: Novices: £512: 2m 74yd)

Artimarval, ch g, by Articulate—Mavala (R Beeson) 8-11-7 ..... D Dutton (9-4 fav) 1
Viscount Mr M Thompson (20-1) 2
Tom Fury ...... P Tuck (7-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 37p; places, 10p, 89p, 11p. Dual forecast: £4.17. J Blundell, at Grimsby. Distance, 7l. Corby Glen (3-1) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Henlow Gamble.

12.45 (12.45) MILLFIELD HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £345: 2½m)

Postdyne b g by No Argument—Postal Vote (B Clarke) 6-11-7 .... A Webb (3-1 fav) 1
Rolling River N Coleman (5-1) 2
Staggerers Lady S J O'Neill (8-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 72p; places, 38p, 17p, 13p. Dual forecast: 82p. CSF: £2.22. W. Mann at Leamington Spa. 10l, 6l. Horkey (12-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Braid.

1.15 (1.15) SOUTHWICK CHASE (Selling handicap: £466: 2m 74yd)

Gentle Rose b m by Milan—Poor Prospect (Safety in Construction Ltd) 10-10-7 ..... G Charles-Jones (10-1) 1
Swan's Rock P Liddicoat (6-1) 2
Zoma .... J Hanson (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.52; places, 41p, 35p, 20p. Dual forecast: £1.66. CSF: £7.54. M. Chapman at Market Harborough. 4l, 4l. Joy Fair 3-1 fav. Three Brethren (5-1) 4th. 11 ran. There was no bid for the winner.

1.45 (1.45) SUNDERLAND CHASE (Handicap: £1,224: 3m 110yd)

Prairie Green ch g by College Green—Nazanse (Mrs M Bennion) 7-10-10 .... Mr W Bennion (10-1) 1
Pampas Domon K Whyte (25-1) 2
King Vulture N Doughty (13-2) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.14; places, 22p, £3.60, 13p. Dual forecast: Winner or second with any other horse, 34p. CSF: £24.35. W Wharton at Melton Mowbray. 10l, 2½l. Estate Agent 100-30 fav. Haybale (7-2) 4th. 13 ran.

2.15 (2.16) MOWBRAY HURDLE (Handicap: £709: 2m)

LUXURIATE, b g by Tom Rolfe—Dee Dee Luxe (Guinea Grill Stakes Ltd), 4-10-10 M Williams (6-1) 1
Lottie Lehmann M Pepper (10-1) 2
Sandicliffe Mr M Thompson (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 26p; places, 22p, 52p, 28p, 31p. Dual F: £3.33. CSF: £2.51. I Wardle at Wells. 1½l, 4l. Mandy's Time 4-1 fav. Steel Flight (10-1) 4th. 17 ran.

2.45 (2.45) QUARRY CHASE (Div II: Novices: £512: 2m 74yd)

BIV, b g by Bivouac—Cashmere Image (Sir D Hill-Wood), 6-11-7 ...... P Tuck (10-1) 1
Forest Lodge .. P Barton (100-30) 2
Linatea ...... D Wilkinson (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 81p; places, 28p, 14p, 24p. Dual F: £1.91. CSF: £4.37. Miss A Hill-Wood at Grantham. 8l, 1l. Slaney 4-5 fav (4th). 10 ran.

3.15 (3.16) MILLFIELD HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £345: 2½m)

CATHABAWN, br g by Tenuki—Whisper of Love (M Kneller), 5-10-11 ...... P Barton (7-1) 1
Royal To Do ..... H Davies (7-1) 2
Righthand Man E Earnshaw (11-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.12p; places, 52p, 19p, 23p. Dual F: £1.66. CSF: £5.23. D Gandolfo at Wantage. 8l, 5l. Tenquin 9-4 fav (4th). 15 ran.

PLACEPOT: £530.60 (45 x 30p stake). Pool of £377.00 carried forward to Haydock today.

Squash rackets

Jahangir's talent at its best

From Richard Eaton, Toronto, Nov 24

Jahangir Khan, the top Pakistani, and Gamal Awad, the top Egyptian, came through for a meeting with each other in the last eight of the world championships here. Each disposed of world class opposition in the early hours of this morning.

Jahangir beat Dean Williams, the world No 9, 9—1, 9—2, 9—2 in 28 minutes, in a match which left the Australian swishing air with his racket in frustration. Awad took 38 minutes to beat Lars Kvant, the world No 12, but allowed him one point less. The score was 9—2, 9—1, 9—1 and the former Malmo footballer, himself one of the quickest players in the game, frequently stood in disbelief as the man they call the grasshopper leapt across the court.

Jahangir, seeded two, and Awad, seeded six, are the two most rapidly improving players in the game today. Awad has never beaten Jahangir but is possibly the only player, apart from world champion Geoff Hunt, who can consistently pressurize him. He hustled the teenager into conceding the first two games earlier in the year but then ran out of steam. In the 20-minute Supasquash event at Welwyn Garden City last month, Awad held a match point. But he has yet to learn to pace himself to last the full distance against the best.

Jahangir's all-round talent was at its best against Williams, who himself is one of the finest attacking players in the world, but rarely had the opportunity to attack. Williams won six points against Jahangir when the youngster went on to win the World Masters in Newcastle earlier this month. This morning, Williams played better and earned one point less.

The youngster knew he would now need to utilize the strength and stamina that is probably the equal of Hunt, and set out to exploit the range of nicks, reverse angles, cross-court slices and disguised kills that—despite his attritional matches with the world champion—place him among the best Pakistani stroke-making tradition. Even Jahangir's ordinary drives, aimed at obtaining a certain percentage of nicks at a full length, spat across the floor with disquieting regularity for his opponent.

Ian Robinson, the England No 4 who plays Hunt, and Gawain Briars, ranked one, who plays Maqsood Ahmed the world No 5 whom he has once beaten, are now the only English survivors and they now attempt to reach the last eight. Phil Kenyon England's No. 2, failed to make it when he was beaten 9—3, 9—4, 9—10, 9—5 by Hidayat Jahan, the Pakistani based in Croydon.

Kenyon, based in Beaconsfield, often practices with Jahan. He was beaten by him in the Swiss Masters and the World Masters recently and was knocked out of the world championship by him at exactly the same stage last year. He could be forgiven for being sick of the sight of the big Pathan who looks and plays like a warrior chieftain. "But I think I learnt for the first time how I might beat him", Kenyon said, "though I'm not saying how."

He scored well with drop shots followed by cut-off volleys that made the big man lunge and turn. But when the ball burst at five-all in the fourth game Jahan won four points and the match in one hand with the new ball.

Boxing

Globe-circling Bristol and the Bomber

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

The most tired man in Britain tonight is going to be Kenny Bristol, the Commonwealth light-middleweight champion. After having travelled from Guyana, where he lives, to Sheffield to defend his title, he is going to have to chase the local hero, Herol Graham, halfway round the world again this evening and he may have nothing to show for his exertions. Even the other local hero, Sebastian Coe, would have a job catching up with Britain's hit-and-run champion, who is Ali, Leonard and the celluloid Roadrunner rolled into one.

The Civic Hall will be packed out by the local lads from the working men's clubs in the area who were given the chance every Sunday recently to hit Graham on the chin and win a fiver, but failed to do it. They will be there to see if Bristol can catch him.

Brendan Ingle, Graham's manager, who thought up the incredible publicity idea, says that his man is so elusive that he would be too good not only for Maurice Hope and Tony Sibson but also for the world champion, Wilfred Benitez.

Let us hope, now that Mr Ingle has pulled in the customers, that they leave satisfied. For Bristol is not exactly a walk-in fighter who is going to allow Graham to pick him off; he is a little cagey, too. Let us also hope that the crowd will be indulgent towards their man and allow him the luxury of staking out the Guyanese to find openings.

Graham, who has not yet quite lived up to his nickname of "Bomber", even though he disposed of Prince Rodney in one round, preferring to let blockbusters whizz past his nose, is able to catch opponents from the most unlikely angles, whipping in two-handed clusters before hopping it.

The two men have one common opponent, Pat Thomas. Bristol beat the former champion on points in Guyana, but the decision was disputed by the Thomas camp. Graham also outpointed Thomas, but he won every round and almost knocked out the Welshman in the closing period.

Graham should prove too lively for the Guyanese, who has not defended his title since February, 1980, and the British champion's speed and long-range scoring should earn him a clear verdict.

□ Colin Jones, the British and Commonwealth welterweight champion, must meet Jorgen Hansen for the European title at Randers, Denmark, on February 10, the Press Association reports. The date will cause complications for Jones. He may be faced with the alternative of defending his British championship against Kirkland Laing, of Nottingham, in January or giving it up.

"If we give him an extension until after Denmark that would mean the British title fight not going on until April or May", Ray Clarke, the British Boxing Board of Control secretary, said. "This in turn would mean that the title would have been on ice for 12 months since Jones last defended it against Laing."

If Jones relinquishes the British title the board will run eliminators to produce an opponent to meet Laing in January or February.

John Feeney, of Hartlepool, will meet an American in his first contest since he won the British bantamweight title. He will top the bill against Santos Cruz, of New York, at Marton Country Club, Middlesbrough, on Sunday.

Gymnastics

Miss Ilyenko and Russian team go into the lead

Moscow, Nov 24.—A Soviet Union team dominated by teenagers opened up a big lead today over China and East Germany in the women's team competition at the world gymnastics championships.

The Russian women swept all four events—the uneven bars, the balance beam, the vault and floor exercises—and held five of the top eight spots in the individual standings. The team competition will be decided on Thursday after the optional part of the programme at the Olympic arena.

Natalya Ilyenko, a 15-year-old schoolgirl, led the individual competition and took her team to a total of 194.40 points, 1.80 points ahead of second-placed China and 4.15 points better than East Germany, in third place. Romania, competing without Nadia Comaneci, were fourth with 189.90 points, the United States fifth with 189.00, and Czechoslovakia sixth with 188.70 points.

Scoring a near-perfect 9.90 in the floor exercises, Miss Ilyenko piled up 39.05 points to take the early lead in the individual standings for the all-round competition. Her colleague Yelena Davydova, aged 20, was second with 39.00, and the tiny Maxi Gnauck, of East Germany, was third with 38.95.

The all-round individual championship will be decided on Saturday in a competition involving the top-scoring women gymnasts from the team event. Points totals achieved during the team competition count towards the overall individual title.

Chen Yongyan aged 19, and Zhu Zhen, aged 20, led the Chinese challenge with scores of 38.75 and 38.70 respectively. The Romanians finished strongly on the uneven bars, but it was a bad day for one of their leading performers, Emilia Eberle.

Miss Eberle fell from the balance beam and the uneven bars, collecting low scores of 9.0 in both events. She managed only a 9.4 in the vault after missing her first jump and had a best score of 9.65 in the floor exercises for a total of 37.05. Her five team colleagues all had better marks, with Rodica Dunca leading the way with 38.35.

Snooker

Miles in lead despite early mistakes

Graham Miles, of Birmingham, twice failed on the black but still finished the first period with a 4—3 lead over Patsy Houlian, of London in the United Kingdom professional championship, sponsored by Coral, at the Guildhall, Preston, yesterday.

Houlian, aged 51, from Deptford, who, 16 years ago, beat John Spencer for the English amateur title, but has never reached the top in the professional ranks, lost on the pink in the first frame but won on black in the next.

Miles, playing a defensive game, looked for errors and then made his mark. His best opportunity came in the second frame when he needed all the colours and a snooker.

Houlian fouled on the yellow, and the Birmingham player, a former world finalist, seized the opportunity to win by three points.

Fred Davis, of Stourport, the oldest player in the tournament, could never come to grips with Tony Knowles, aged 26, and over 40 years his junior, in their effort for a place in the last 16.

SECOND ROUND: G Miles (Birmingham) leads P Houlian (Deptford), 4—3 (Miles first): 62—54, 49—54, 60—57, 32—64, 64—39, 61—31, 57—63. T Knowles (Bolton) leads F Davis (Stourport), 5—2 (Knowles first): 79—20, 69—36, 75—19, 16—60, 83—2, 71—32, 31—89.

Billiards

Ferreira holds off Englishman

Delhi, Nov 24.—Michael Ferreira, of India, held off a late rally from Norman Dagley, of England, to win the world amateur championship here today. Ferreira subdued the fighting Dagley by just 94 points, 2,725 to 2,631.

Dagley trailed by 248 after yesterday's first two sessions and after the third today he was 548 behind with one period remaining. The Englishman had breaks of 296 and 281 in the closing session to reduce Ferreira's lead to 46. Ferreira had a break of 234 to clinch the victory.—Reuter.

For the record

Squash rackets

VICTORIA, Canada: women's tournament: First round: L Opie (GB) beat L Crow (US), 9—3, 9—4, 9—4; A Smith (GB) beat J Stone (Canada), 9—0, 9—5, 9—0; M Lemoignam (Guernsey) beat S Drever (Canada), 6—0, 9—2, 9—0; R Blackwood (NZ) beat J Ashton (GB), 9—7, 10—8, 9—6; A Cummings (GB) beat Margaret Zachariah (Australia), 9—4, 9—5, 9—4.

MOSCOW: World championships: women's team standings after compulsory figures: 1, Soviet Union, 194.40 pts; 2, China, 192.60; 3, East Germany, 190.25; 4, Romania, 189.90; 5, United States, 189.0; 6, Czechoslovakia, 188.70; 7, Bulgaria, 187.50; 8, Hungary, 185.55; 9, West Germany, 185.35; 10, Canada, 184.10; 13, Britain, 180.40.

American football

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Atlanta Falcons 31, Minnesota Vikings 30. (Only game scheduled).

Hockey

CALCUTTA: India 4, Pakistan 3.

Tennis

SYDNEY: New South Wales women's open championship (Australian unless stated): first round: A Kiyomura (US) beat B Hallquist (US) 6—2, 6—4; S Walsh (US) beat M Meskor (Netherlands) 4—6, 6—3, 6—2; B Nagelsen (US) beat B Cotton 6—4, 3—6, 6—4; M Pinterova (Hungary) beat E Gordon (US) 6—1, 6—1; C Reynolds (US) beat N Gregory 6—2, 6—1; A Smith (US) beat C O'Neill 4—6, 6—3, 6—3; A Hobbs (Britain) beat K Steinmetz (WG) 6—1, 6—3; A Minter beat A Tobin 6—4, 6—5; L Allen (US) beat C Bailey (US) 7—5, 4—6, 6—2; J Preyer (US) beat B Stove (Netherlands) 6—2, 3—6, 6—2; M Jausovec (Yugoslavia) beat R Blount (US) 7—5, 6—2. Second round: W Turnbull beat L Antonoplis (US) 6—0, 6—2; K Jordan (US) beat C Kohde (WG) 6—3, 7—5; A Jaeger (US) beat H Gadusek (US) 7—5, 6—0.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Edmonton Oilers 8, Detroit Red Wings 4. (Only game scheduled).

Billiards

NEW DELHI: World amateur championship: Final: M Ferreira (India) beat N Dagley (England), 2,725—2,631.

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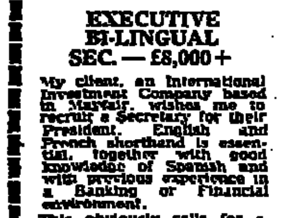
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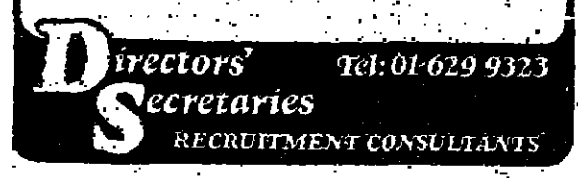
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Paris. Fluent French sec no s/hand, 21+. £7,500.
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Dusseldorf. Fluent German sec, no s/hand, 23+. £10,000.
London W1. Sec/pa with German and French, 25+. £7,500.
London City. Greek-speaking recep/typist. £6,000.
Hounslow. Fluent German sec, 22+. £6,000+.
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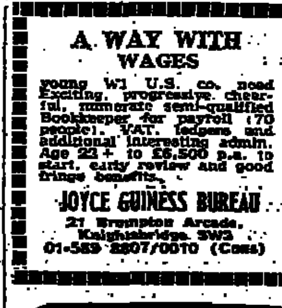
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Please write with details (inc. contact telephone number if possible) to

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West End 439 7001

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Ref. AC or SRH

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The position carries 20 days holiday per year, 50p luncheon vouchers per day and interest free season ticket loan. Entry into non-contributory pension and sickness schemes after qualifying period. Present staff informed of this vacancy.

Please reply with c.v.
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Ring Camilla Murdoch
735 5622

Chestertons

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to Regional Director

c. £7,000 Insurance Broking—City

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Excellent shorthand/typing skills and numeracy essential. Must also have a smart appearance and a pleasant manner. Age 25+.

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Recruitment Consultants,
173 New Bond Street, London W1.
01-499 0092 or 493 5907

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Subsidiary of leading Brazilian food exporting company requires secretary with fluent English and Portuguese, for small friendly team in Knightsbridge. Must be able to work on own initiative, be capable of running office in absence of company executive, and possess good shorthand, typing and telex.

CV to:
UNEF, c/o Atlantic Chartering Ltd.,
6 Lloyds Avenue,
London EC3.
Salary negotiable.
(NO AGENCIES)

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For further information, please phone Sarah Smith on 488 0155.

PART-TIME PA/OFFICE MANAGER £4,750 neg.

A small but substantial West End Property Company requires a three-day a week P.A./Office Manager to assist and deputise for the Managing Director. Key requirements are the ability to cope with clients and to troubleshoot: to have a proven working knowledge of both double-entry bookkeeping and PAYE together with the ability to undertake some audio typing (no shorthand). Good appearance and speech are essential. Age 35-45 years. Post open to both male and female applicants. Contact:

Mr Brian MacBlain
01-408 1611

MacBlain NASH
Recruitment Consultants

£7,000 22-30 years

Our client, an International firm of Solicitors, requires a high calibre Secretary who is capable of giving a full P.A./Secretarial back-up to the Senior Partner, responsible for commercial work. Previous legal experience is not a requirement for this very busy and interesting position. Impeccable secretarial skills (100/60) + some audio together with good speech and appearance are the key essentials for a position which involves considerable people contact and organisational flair. Excellent working conditions. Close to tube.

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BURSAR required immediately by established Kensington school. Applicants must have knowledge of school management and book-keeping. Sense of humour essential. High salary to right person.

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Competent audio secretary required to work at Director level in the aviation division of a substantial Lloyds and International Reinsurance Brokers in their head office in the City.

Good audio typing skills, pleasant personality and some previous experience essential. Age 22-26. Salary in the region of £5,500 + luncheon vouchers and other benefits.

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01-623 4611

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for small busy City office. Good education and typing speeds essential. Salary up to £6,000 according to age and experience.

PLEASE RING
253 3787

UNUSUALLY INTERESTING JOB

Responsible well-spoken enterprising person needed now to manage a small multi-let office building near Warren St tube. Reception. Telex. organizing abilities essential. £6,000+. For further details telephone Mr. Graham on

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Important family—resident in France/Italy—seeks attractive young lady with good family background, 25/40 years, for minimum employment one year to teach two young ladies English. References essential. Diploma in English and other foreign language preferred. Maximum salary is offered and excellent accommodation within the family.

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Kindly intelligent companion for bright lady, aged 77. Self-contained accommodation. Wages to be arranged.

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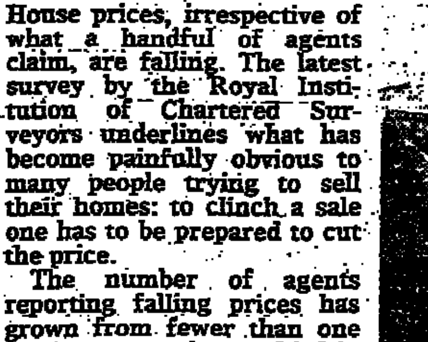
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DAILY MOTHER'S HELP/NANNY needed. Live out. December until April, for family in Islington. Daughter nine months. Hours 10 am until 4 pm, Monday to Friday. Telephone 278 5626.

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Residential Property by Baron Phillips

Sellers may need to cut the price



House prices, irrespective of what a handful of agents claim, are falling. The latest survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors underlines what has become painfully obvious to many people trying to sell their homes: to clinch a sale one has to be prepared to cut the price.

The number of agents reporting falling prices has grown from fewer than one in 10 to more than a third in November, according to the survey. In the August quarter agents taking part in the survey indicated that prices were falling in areas which were particularly hard-pressed by the economic climate. Now lower prices appear to be far more widespread than three months ago.

House owners are thought to be waiting for an upturn in the market before trying to sell.

Commenting on the survey, Mr John Thomas, the institution's spokesman on house prices, said: "Buyers are now in a commanding position and for the first time for many years there is a continuing trend of lower prices. A market correction is not expected, but there is at the moment no reliable forecast of an upward trend before next year."

According to the latest forecast by the National Council of Building Material Producers, house prices are not expected to rise much in the coming year either. Although their comments are largely reflective of the market in new dwellings the comments apply equally to the market in general.

The council assumes that there will be little or no growth in real incomes during the coming year. As has been pointed out one of the key factors missing from the current market is growth in incomes, together with a confidence about prospects.

The BMP note that more and more builders are switching their resources into low-cost housing aimed at the first-time buyer which, partly because of the surfiet of money available, has held up extremely well.

No one feels confident of making a prediction as to when there might be an upturn in the market. Much will depend on the Government's efforts to stimulate the ecoomy and curb growing unemployment.

The message coming through loud and clear is: do not move unless you have to — or be prepared to reduce your expectations on your selling price. Some agents have noted a strong buying wave in their areas but htis tends to be from purchasers who have already sold their property or who are being supported by their company for bridging and other loans.

Anyway at this time of year we can expect a slackening of demand as the market prepares itself for Christmas and the New Year festivities. Activity is unlikely to pick up again until well into January and many people may be prepared to wait until spring or early summer.

Those who have to move from one part of the country to another may be interested in a new network of estate agents established to serve their needs. Based on the existing memberships of the country's two leading referral networks, National Network and Home Relocation, the new system is called National Homes Network.



The Northampton office of Jackson-Stops & Staff have recently sold Nailcote Hall at Berkswell, near Coventry for around £180,000 to a Midlands Businessman. The house has five bedrooms, five bathrooms, three reception rooms, a reception hall and about 8 acres of grounds.

Initially it will involve more than 1,300 estate agency offices in Britain and after it has become operational on January 1 membership is expected to expand to about 2,000 offices within the coming two years.

Someone who has to move form one part of the country to another, or even some European or North American locations, simply contacts the local NHN agent, giving him their requirements covering type of house, preferred location, schools, sports and social inclinations.

The agent then contacts the local office in the area to which you are moving, giving a detailed list of your requirements. The local estate agent then tries to match your requirements with what is available. Details of relevant properties, location maps, and amenities are then sent to the prospective buyer.

The network also works on a more localized level as participating agents produce a multi-listing service which takes much of the leg work out of house hunting. Mr Vivian Moon, chairman of NHN, said: "Our members are determined to raise the standards of residential estate agency in this country." He added that the service will concentrate on good communications, ensuring that vendor knows at all times how the sale is progressing.

People using the service will also be encouraged to complete a confidential report on the standard of service received at the end of each transaction. NHN say this document is necessary to clear up any misconceptions or misunderstandings involving the vendor and the firm's staff, and also to take action to improve communication procedures. For further information on National Homes Network, contact the organization at Suite 303, Radnor House, 93 Regent Street, London W1R 7TE. Tel: (01) 439 3611/2.

In these days of fierce competition, builders able to offer cheap mortgages place tremendous pressure on the small individual builder. Many will not survive the recession, but one who is determined to do so is Mr Malcolm Sykes, whose company Hazelplex, operates in the Peterborough area.

For the past four years or so Mr Sykes has been kept busy restoring and redeveloping the small village of Apethorpe near Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. The mainly stone and thatched roofed village is a few miles west of the A1 and Mr Sykes has taken great pains to blend his new buildings in with old and has attempted to recreate the atmosphere of older traditional houses.

At the heart of his scheme is three acres of farm buildings which he has restored and converted into roomy houses. Since then he has acquired the last building plots in the village and is building three T-shaped split-level homes in Bradstone and clay pantiled roofs. Consisting of four bedrooms, two bathrooms, two receptions, a galleried study, balcony and fully fitted kitchens, the internal charm of older houses has been retained.

In about one-third of an acre, the houses are on sale through Willian Brown, of Stamford, and Vergettes, of Peterborough, at about £85,000 each.

" EVERY VALLEY shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain." Isaiah 40 : 4

BIRTHS

BELSEY.—On 21st November, at West London Hospital, to Philippa (nee Stevens) and John —a son (Peter James).

BUSHBY.—On November 21st, at Mount Alvernia, Guildford, to Sandra (nee Ellvers-Dix) and Lee—a daughter (Alexandra Helen McLaren).

CURETON-GRIFFITHS.—On November 22nd at Shrewsbury to Hilary and Jeremy—a son (Alex).

DESMOND.—On November 19th, 1981, at QE2 Hospital, Welwyn Garden City, to Diana (nee Mayne) and Danny—a daughter (Lara Gabrielle).

HAWKINS.—On November 21st 1981 at The County Hospital, Lincoln, to Anne Cavill (nee Peacock) and Philip — a daughter.

JOSEPHS.—On November 24th, 1981, in Washington, D.C., to Gella (nee Marsden) and Julian—a daughter (Serena Claire).

LEE.—On November 23rd, at St. Thomas' Hospital, to Jane (nee Watkinson) and Carlton—a son (Max Sebastian).

MACCURRACH.—On 22nd November to Tricia and Robert—a daughter (Tabitha Elizabeth).

MACDONALD. — Of Aird and Valley. In New York, to Elisabeth and Jamie—a son (Alexander James Wolff).

MARSHALL.—On 23rd November, to Dorothy and John, of Ordsall Rectory, Retford—a son (Christopher David), a brother for Rachel and Andrew.

MORISON.—On November 21st 1981 at The Hague, to Linda (nee Libourel) and Peter, a daughter (Laura Joy).

KING.—On November 22nd to Jane and Tarka — a son William.

ROSE.—On Monday, 23rd November, 1981, at Birmingham Maternity Hospital, to Sara (nee Phelp), wife of Digby Rose—a son.

ROSSE.—On 9th November 1981 at Ballinasloe to the Countess of Rosse—a son.

SHEERMAN.—On November 16th, at Halifax General, to Pamela and Barry—a daughter, a sister for Lucy, Madlin and John.

TUCKER.—On November 19th, to Joanna (nee Thicknesse) and John—a daughter (Hannah).

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIM—from your fellow Friday lunchers.

DEATHS

PETERSON.—On November 23rd, 1981, in Eastbourne, Joan Cicely, very much loved and never to be forgotten mother and grandmother. Cremation at Eastbourne on Friday, 27th November at 10.30 a.m.

POWELL-DAVIES.—On November 20, 1981 peacefully at his home 18 Priory View, Little Wymondley, Herts, Geoffrey Powell-Davies, J.P., aged 72. Former chairman of the Stevenage Bench. Funeral service at St. Nicholas Church, Old Stevenage on Monday, November 30 at 2.30 pm followed by cremation at the Vale Crematorium, Stopsley, Luton. All flowers and enquiries to W Austin, Stevenage 66621.

RUSSELL, ALLAN HOLME, MBE, DSL.—On November 24 at Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester, aged 61 years. Husband of Nan and father of Tim and Posy. Funeral service at Itchen Abbas parish church on Monday, November 30 at 2.00 pm. Cremation private, family flowers only, donations if desired to Missions to Seamen, c/o John Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

SAYER. — On 23rd November, 1981, peacefully at home, in Nakuru, Kenya, Muriel, after a long illness courageously borne.

SCOTT.—On November 24th, 1981, peacefully at home after an illness borne with great cheerfulness and courage, Sylva (nee Powell), aged 80 years, widow of Gordon Irwin Scott, much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral service Monday, November 30th, at 12 noon, at Brockham Green Church, Betchworth. Inquiries please to Sherlock & Sons, telephone Dorking 882266.

TOWNSEND.—On November 22nd, peacefully at The Johnson Hospital, Spalding, Thomas William, aged 67 years, dearly loved husband of Renée and father of Michael and Catherine.

TUFNELL.—On November 22, peacefully at home, Miss D. E. S. (Star) Tufnell, of Deal, Kent and Odiham, Hampshire. Only child of the late Colonel and Mrs Arthur Tufnell. Service at Odiham Parish Church, on Friday, November 27 at 11.30 am. Enquiries to: E Finch & Sons Ltd. Tel.: Aldershot (0252) 32281.

WADDILOVE.—On 23rd November, at Ampleforth Abbey, Rev. Alexander Denis Waddilove, Monk of Ampleforth, aged 68 years. Requiem and funeral at Ampleforth Abbey, Thursday, 26th November, at 2.30 p.m.

WILSON.—On November 23 peacefully ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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			2	14	28 Nov	£109
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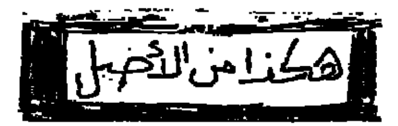
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Adhesives. 9.38 Science Workshop. 10.00 You and Me. Leaps and Bounds introduced by Elizabeth Estensen (not Schools) (r). 10.15 Co-ordinates. 10.38 Statistics. 11.00 Mr Grumpy's Outing. 11.17 Read On! 11.40 Working in different places. 12.05 French conversation. 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. 12.57 Regional news (not London). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Katherine Whitehorn with advice on making Puddings. 1.45 Fingerbobs. Shadows with Rick Jones (r). 2.01 For Schools, Colleges: The Nativity. 2.18 Stalin and the Modernisation of Russia. 2.40 Merry-go-Round 3.00 Closedown. 3.15 Songs of Praise introduced from Cyprus and Durham by Geoffrey Wheeler (r). 3.53 Regional news (not London).

3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Cartoon: Undercover Elephant in Latin Losers (r).
4.25 Jackanory. David Hargreaves reads the third part of David in Silence by Veronica Robinson.
4.40 The Record Breakers. More entertaining extremes from Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround. The latest world news for young people.
5.10 God's Wonderful Railway. Drama series about the making of the GWR.
5.40 News with Richard Baker. 6.00 Regional news magazines.
6.25 Nationwide.
6.50 Film: Blindfold (1965) starring Rock Hudson and Claudia Cardinale. Spoof spy thriller about a fashionable psychiatrist hired by the American security services to treat a mysterious patient on a secret army base.
8.30 *Love Story: Wilfred and Eileen.* Part three. Wilfred has been seriously wounded in battle. After a worrying search Eileen finally traces him to a hospital in France. She wins her fight to visit him and bring him back to England for treatment.

9.00 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party.
9.10 News with John Humphrys.
9.35 Sportsnight: introduced by Harry Carpenter. Included tonight are highlights from one of the European and domestic knockout cup matches played this evening; a re-cap on last night's European Middleweight title fight between Tony Sibson and Nicola Cirelli; and the National Five-a-Side football competition.
11.13 News headlines.
11.15 Parkinson. His guests are Dr Christiaan Barnard, Anouk Aimee and Jacques Cousteau.
12.10 Weather.

BBC1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales — 11.17-11.40 am I Ysgolion. 11.40-12.05 pm Ysgolion. 12.57-1.00 News: 2.18-2.40 I Ysgolion. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.50-7.15 Heddiw. 7.15-7.40 Plant Y Paith. 7.40-8.05 Angels. 8.05-8.30 Tad. 12.10 am News. SCOTLAND — 11.40-12.05 pm Geography. 12.55-1.00 News. 2.40-3.00 For Schools. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 12.10 am News. NORTHERN IRELAND — 12.57-1.00 pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 12.10 am News. ENGLAND — 6.00-6.25 Regional news magazine. 12.15 am Close.

BBC 2

10.20 Gharbar. A magazine programme with advice for Asian women. 10.45 Closedown. 11.00 Play School. For the under fives presented by Chloe Ashcroft and Dev Sagoo. The guest storyteller is Carmen Munroe and she tells us about The Old Sink by Kathy Squires. 11.25 Closedown. 3.55 One Man and his Dog introduced by Phil Drabble and Eric Halsall. Three shepherds from Ireland compete for a place in the semi-final of the International Sheepdog Championship (r).

4.35 Young Musicians 1980. Paul Galbraith (guitar) plays Weiss's Passacaglia (r).
4.40 Vikings! Magnus Magnusson looks at the exploits of the legendary Rus tribe who raided as far as Constantinople (r).
5.10 The Flying Boats. The first of a three part history of the flying Leviathans (r).
5.40 The Five Faces of Dr Who. Episode three of The Three Doctors (r).
6.05 Grange Hill. Credible drama series set in a secondary school.
6.30 Life on Earth: The Swarming Hordes introduced by David Attenborough. (r).
7.25 News with sub-titles.
7.30 The Return of Lupino Lane. Extracts from some of his films (r).
7.50 *Collecting Now* introduced by Harriet Crawley.
8.20 Strangeways. Part four and we see inside the notorious D block — the punishment landing (r).

9.00 M*A*S*H. Korean war comedy about the staff of an American field hospital. Klinger's Thanksgiving Day turkey has made the entire outfit unwell: The antibiotics are with Hawkeye and Hunnicutt who are stranded seventy miles from the camp.
9.25 The Borgias. Lucrezia's second husband has been murdered on the instigation of Cesare. She is now being asked to marry for the third time.
10.20 Grapevine. The first in a new series illustrating the efficacy of community action.
10.50 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party.
11.00 Newsnight. The latest world news plus an extended look at one of the main stories. Ends at 11.50.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Voting for the hard-of hearing. 9.47 Jack and the Beanstalk. 10.04 The daily life of a butcher. 10.16 The Authion Valley. 10.38 Living in Bradford. 11.02 The life of Edward Lear. 11.20 Starting Science. 11.39 How we used to live. 12.00 The Munch Bunch and the Amazing Giant Windmill. 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets. 12.30 Turning Point. Colin Morris talks to Pat Stephens, a former baby batterer who founded Parents Anonymous. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Armchair Thriller. Part four of Dead Man's Kit (r). 2.00 After Noon Plus with Mary Parkinson. 2.45 Charlie's Angels. Another case to crack for the toothsome threesome (r). 3.45 Emmerdale Farm. Richard Anstey plans to extend his estate (r).

4.15 Cartoon: Bear for Punishment.
4.20 Country Camera. In this last programme in the series Simon features the snipe, the curlew and the barn owl. He has also managed to shoot some rare film of a fox cub learning to hunt.
4.45 Fanfare for Young Musicians. Five groups of young musicians entertain, hoping to be chosen for the final.
5.15 Take the Stage. Mime competition between stars of television and of repertory. Trevor Peacock is in the chair.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.25 Help! Viv Taylor Gee with news of Free Form, a non-profit-making charity supported by the Arts Council.
6.35 Crossroads. Ron Brownlow is astonished by Iris Scott.
7.00 This is Your Life. Eamonn Andrews plus red book completely surprise a notable with a resume of his or her life.
7.30 Coronation Street. Will Audrey Potter say yes?
8.00 Starburst. Fast moving variety show headed by impressionist Faith Brown. The regular music is provided by Jack Parnell and his orchestra.

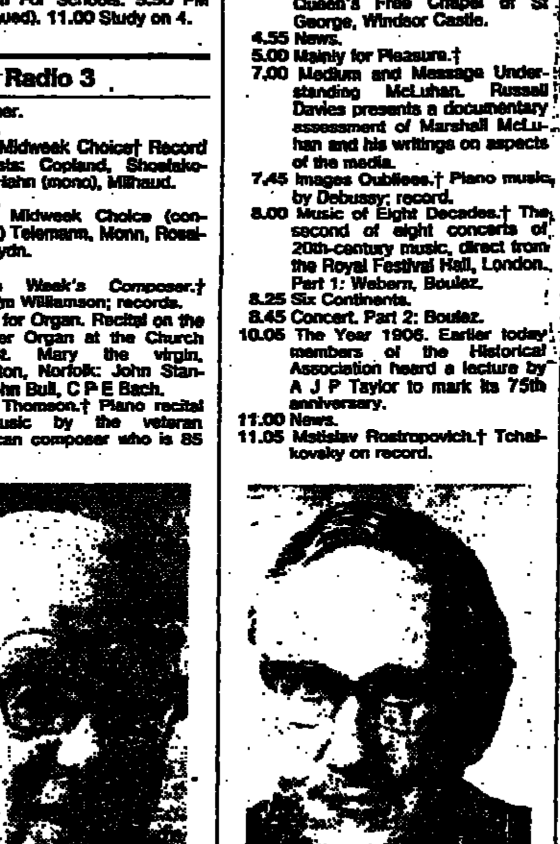
9.00 Diamonds. Drama series about a family firm of Hatton Garden gem dealers. Frank Coleman, who has been running the firm since his father's recent death realises that he is the victim of a con-trick.
10.00 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Labour Party.
10.10 News.
10.40 Film: The Devil's Rain (1975) starring William Shatner and Ernest Borgnine. A witchcraft creepy which begins with a man dissolving into a waxy liquid when he returns to his ranch in the obligatory storm. As he dies he utters the name of a man burnt at the stake for witchcraft during the 17th century.
12.15 Close with John Julius Norwich reading a favourite piece about the countryside.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Midweek.
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Ridgeway Summer" by Jill Norris.
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 A Walk in the Dark (new series) A serial in five parts by Chris Boucher. With Patrick Mower and Helen Atkinson Wood (Part 1).
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 "Going Down with the Slip" by Karl Barry.†
3.50 Memories of a Slate Quarryman. Francon Hughes talks to Peter O'Neill about his working life in Penrhyn quarry.
4.00 Priestland's Progress† Gerald Priestland offers a plain man's guide to the Christian faith (10) At Your Service.
4.45 Story Time: "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" by Charles Dickens (3).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.15 Scarman Special.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Checkpoint. Roger Cook's weekly investigation into listeners' experience of unfair dealings, injustice and fraud.
7.45 The Reith Lectures 1981: "The Two-Edged Sword". Six talks by Professor Laurence Martin, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, on armed force in the modern world (3) "Shadow Over Europe".
8.15 The Horseman's World. An evocation of the days when heavy horses were still a common sight in the East Anglian countryside, and head-horsemen were the elite of the village.
8.45 Analysis: "Our Very Own Milestones". Managing the nationalized industries.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Lord Peter Wimsey. "Have His Carcase" by Dorothy L. Sayers. With Ian Carmichael as Lord Peter (The last of six episodes).
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Poor Mouth" by Flann O'Brien (3).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News, Weather.
VHF: 6.25am Weather. 10.00 For Schools. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 11.00 For Schools. 2.00pm For Schools. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Your Midweek Choice† Record requests: Copland, Shostakovich, Hahn (mono), Milhaud.
8.00 News.
8.05 Your Midweek Choice (continued) Telemann, Monn, Rossini, Haydn.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer.† Malcolm Williamson; records.
10.00 Music for Organ. Recital on the Snetzler Organ at the Church of St. Mary the virgin, Hillington, Norfolk: John Stanley, John Bull, C P E Bach.
10.30 Virgil Thomson.† Piano recital of music by the veteran American composer who is 85 today.
11.30 Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra.† Concert: Tippett, Haydn, Mendelssohn.
1.00 News.
1.15 Concert Hall.† Violin and Cello recital, direct from Broadcasting House, London: Kodaly, Martinu, Bartok arr. Kraeuter.
2.00 Music Weekly.†
2.50 Moura Lympany.† Piano recital: Beethoven, Brahms, Debussy.
4.00 Choral Evensong † from The Queen's Free Chapel of St George, Windsor Castle.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Medium and Message Understanding McLuhan. Russell Davies presents a documentary assessment of Marshall McLuhan and his writings on aspects of the media.
7.45 Images Oubliees.† Piano music by Debussy; record.
8.00 Music of Eight Decades.† The second of eight concerts of 20th-century music, direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London. Part 1: Webern, Boulez.
8.25 Six Continents.
8.45 Concert. Part 2: Boulez.
10.05 The Year 1906. Earlier today members of the Historical Association heard a lecture by A J P Taylor to mark its 75th anniversary.
11.00 News.
11.05 Mstislav Rostropovich.† Tchaikovsky on record.



A. J. P. Taylor lectures on the year 1906 (Radio 3 10.05 pm)

Dr Hugh Jolly: a guest on the Jimmy Young Show (Radio 2 10.00 pm)

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 John Dunn.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News. 6.00 Don Durbridge.† 8.00 Alan Dell. 8.30 The Mitchell Minstrels † 9.00 The Boston Pops.† 10.00 Animal Alphabet 10.30 Hubert Gregg. 11.00 Brian Matthew † (from midnight). 1.00 Truckers' Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Radio 1 Mailbag: Phone-in on 01-580 4411. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 midnight Close.
VHF Radios 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (463m) at the following times GMT — 6.00am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Letter from London. 7.40 Book Choice. 7.45 Report on Religion 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Operetta. 8.30 Take it or Leave it. 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Ray Moore's Album Time. 10.15 Classical Record Review 10.30 The Red and the Black. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 Meridian 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15pm Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Radio Theatre 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 Three Centuries of Italian Opera 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 That Big Band Magic. 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News 5.09 Listening Post 5.25 Operetta. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary. 9.15 Music for Strings 9.30 Jazz for the Asking. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Paperback Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Britain's Daily Newspaper. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 World News. 12.09am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Listening Post 12.45 Frank Muir Goes Into ... 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Six Irish Writers. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Just A Minute. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m. VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m. VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

CHOICE

Harry Morgan as Colonel Potter in M*A*S*H (BBC 2 9.00 pm)

● GRAPEVINE (BBC 2 10.20pm) returns tonight for a fifth series. The programme, presented by Jeni Barnett, provides an entertaining and informative look at self-help projects and community politics throughout the country. For this first programme we meet a group of people who have formed an action group in order to buy their local Odeon which Rank propose to close down. From Chester we hear of a betting shop on a council estate where half the profits go to a trust aiding the estate and there is news from Nottingham where a self-help group has been formed to help mothers come to terms with the tragedy of still-born babies.

● In MEMORIES OF A SLATE QUARRYMAN (Radio 4 3.50pm) Francon Hughes, a retired quarryman, recalls in conversation with Peter O'Neill, the hardships and dangers that were encountered by the men who spent their life working the slate quarries. Once an industry that brought prosperity to North Wales, it is now reduced to a very few workings including the Penrhyn quarry, the largest man-made hole in the world, situated above the village of Bethesda. In the days when Francon Hughes was a boy, competition for jobs was very keen with the father to son job inheritance prevailing. Indeed children names were sometimes entered on the waiting list before they were aged ten. Like many of his colleagues, Mr Hughes suffers from pneumoconosis, a disease that seems to go part and parcel with a life-time of quarrying slate.

● THE HORSEMAN'S WORLD (Radio 4 8.15pm) has been made by George Ewart Evans, an authority on the lore of rural life, from a collection of interviews with horsekeepers over the past twenty years. The head horseman was once an important man in the village. He held sway with his suggestion of magical powers of control over the huge horses. His influence waned with the coming of the modern industrial farm but it lingered a little longer than most places in East Anglia where the Suffolk Punch was preferred to mechanisation. With the crippling price of fuel the heavy horse is again seen as an economical alternative for many agricultural tasks but there is now a new generation of horseman, alas, without the mystique of their predecessors.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

GRANADA
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Granada reports. 2.00 Live From Two. 2.45-3.45 Bracken. 5.15-5.45 Adventures of Black Beauty. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right. 6.30-7.00 Crossroads. 12.15am Closedown.

TYNE TEES
As Thames except: Starts 9.20am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20pm News. 1.25-1.30 Where the jobs are. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack). 5.15-5.45 Mork And Mindy. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life with Tom Coyne. 12.15am The Three Faces Of God. 12.20 Closedown.

WESTWARD
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack). 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 10.42 News. 10.44 Film: The Devil's Rain (see Thames). 12.15am Faith For Life. 12.21 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT

SOUTHERN
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Amazing Years Of Cinema: The Fighters. 2.45-3.45 Charlie's Angels. 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day By Day. 6.30-7.00 Mork And Mindy. 12.15am Weather followed by Thinking Aloud and Closedown.

SCOTTISH
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack). 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Action Line. 6.30-7.00 World Worth Keeping. 12.15am Late Call. 12.20 Closedown.

CHANNEL
As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack). 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 10.00-10.10 Chance to Meet ... Brian Rix. 10.38 News. 10.44 Film: The Devil's Rain (see Thames). 12.15 am Epilogue, followed by Closedown.

BORDER
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack). 5.15-5.45 Out of Town with Jack Hargreaves. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 12.15 am News. 12.18 Closedown.

ULSTER
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack). 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 12.15 Bedtime, followed by Closedown.

YORKSHIRE
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack). 3.45-4.15 The Entertainers: Chas and Dave. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 12.15 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN
As Thames except: 9.25am-9.30 First Thing 1.20pm-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack) 6.00-6.35 North Tonight 12.15am News 12.20 Closedown

ATV
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Tenspeed and Brownshoe (Ben Vereen) 5.15-5.45 Survival 6.00 News 6.05 Crossroads 6.30-7.00 Atv Today 12.15am Closedown

HTV
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack) 5.10 Ask Oscar! 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Report West 6.30-7.00 Benson 10.38-10.40 News 12.15am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES
As Htv West except: 12.00-12.10pm Ffalabalam 4.45-5.10 Goglis 5.10-5.20 Dick Tracy 6.00 Y Dydd 6.15 Report Wales with Michael Lloyd-Williams 6.30-7.00 Taff Acre

ANGLIA
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City (Cyril Cusack) 6.00-6.35 About Anglia 12.15 Big Question, Closedown

Entertainments Guide

Curb on foreign bank bids shelved

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Cabinet's economic strategy committee yesterday decided to shelve a plan to legislate against foreign takeovers of British banks.

A Treasury paper, calling for reserve powers to block selected takeover bids, has been on the committee's rolling agenda for a number of weeks.

The proposal was prompted by Bank of England disquiet over the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation's £500m-plus bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland earlier this year.

Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, was said to be the moving force behind the Treasury counter attack. But when the issue was finally reached at a No 10 meeting of ministers yesterday morning, it was formally agreed that there should be no present plans to legislate.

Mr John Biffen, the Trade Secretary, and Mr Humphrey Atkins, the deputy Foreign Secretary, who is also the Lord Privy Seal, were understood to have taken a highly hostile line against the Treasury brief, which would have been backed by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor.

Some Whitehall sources suggested last night that the Treasury would now attempt to minimise the setback, arguing, perhaps, that it had merely been acting as a mouthpiece for the Bank.

It was pointed out that if the Chancellor had been acting as a devil's advocate, the Treasury paper had carried supreme conviction.

Nevertheless, the point made jointly by Trade and the Foreign Office was that it would be dangerous for the Government to take overt and precipitate action against foreign takeovers at a time when Her Majesty's Government was calling for liberalization of financial services in the EEC.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which is now examining the Royal Bank of Scotland bids from both Hongkong and Shanghai and the Standard Chartered Bank, could also offer a more subtle resolution of the problem when it reports to Mr Biffen, sometime before the end of January.

Stevens gets the sack

Continued from page 1

the *Daily Express* proved more recalcitrant when he took over there as managing director in 1972. He saved several million pounds by closing the *Scottish Daily Express* in 1974, but was unable to prevent a steady ebb of circulation.

The *Daily Express*, the group's flagship, tacked in vain from "up-market" to "down-market", under one editor after another: first Ian MacColl, then Alastair Burnet, Roy Wright, Derek Jameson, Arthur Firth and, finally, Christopher Ward. He came over from the *Daily Mirror* six weeks ago.

Yesterday Mr Ward told his editorial staff that he had been assured by Lord Matthews that the company's plans for the group would not be in any way affected by Stevens's departure. The situation remained that the company intended to develop and strengthen the *Daily Express* editorially and invest in its future success. Lord Matthews had added that he was pleased with recent changes in the paper (which has been going back up-market), and the editor and staff enjoyed his complete confidence.

Trafalgar House took over the ailing Beaverbrook empire in 1977 and Mr Stevens with it. The handsome, golden haired Old Etonian, now 49, with his short temper and taste for high life, was an odd chief executive for Victor Matthews the self-made rough-hewn builder who is now 61. In the end, Lord Matthews, as he became, may have decided that he needed a rather steadier hand at the tiller as his newspapers pough through Fleet Street's heavy seas.

☐ *Our City staff writes:* Trafalgar's hotel profits last year were £49m. It owns £30.5m worth of hotels in the United Kingdom, including The Ritz, and in the Caribbean; and Cunard with the QE2 as its flagship in £71m worth of ships, aircraft, plant and equipment.

Diary, page 12.



From college to the top: In 1936, the 30-year-old Leonid Brezhnev (right) was a student at a military armour school. There have been rich awards since.

Son of the Soviet Union, for 75 years and true

The Soviet news agency Tass has issued the following statement and accompanying photographs to celebrate the occasion of President Brezhnev's seventy-fifth birthday:

The 19th of December, 1981, is the 75th birthday of Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, General Secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, chairman of the Defence Council of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union, who is an outstanding continuer of Lenin's cause and that of the great October Socialist Revolution, a true son of the Soviet Nation, an ardent activist of the Communist Party, Soviet state and international communist movement, a champion of peace and social progress, and a consistent Marxist-Leninist.

The restless and fruitful activity of L. I. Brezhnev is an inspiring example of selfless service to the motherland, to the Lenin party and the cause of communism.

The inexhaustible energy, the principled stand of the party member and the indissoluble connection with the nation's life, which are all inherent in L. I. Brezhnev's work, have gained him the universal affection and a profound respect by the working people.

In all the posts in the party's and the state's management, which he has ever held on the party's directions, L. I. Brezhnev has justified the honourable trust accorded to him.

Under L. I. Brezhnev's wise guidance our country is steadily progressing economically, politically and culturally, the alliance of the working class, collective farmers and people's intelligentsia has been still strengthening and the friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union has become closer.

The success of the USSR in building up a communist society is much contributed by the multifaceted activity of L. I. Brezhnev in strengthening peace in the world and in building up the Soviet Union's prestige and influence in the international arena.

Frank Johnson in Crosby

Janet and John and the fatal Shirley

Mr John Butcher, the Conservative candidate in the Crosby by-election, last night threw himself under a rush of commuters at one of the constituency's railway stations. After the opinion polls, it was the only way out. No doubt a coroner would rule that he took this course of action while the balance of his majority was disturbed. Another reason was his obsession with a woman.

"May I ask you who you're going to vote for", he asked one commuter.

"*Shirley*", was the reply.

Shirley! That fatal name. Mr Butcher was a happy man until he came into the clutches of Shirley. Every other ambitious young Tory, anxious to get into Parliament, would have nothing to do with her at Crosby. But Mr Butcher thought he could tame her. It was a decision which was to lead him to his present desperate situation.

Before all this happened, he was a chartered accountant not yet 40. He had been elected to Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council. He had been treasurer of the Bow Group. He had a light-brown camel hair overcoat. Life had treated him well.

Now he is threatened with the loss of what a man like him believed to be the most precious thing in life: a huge Conservative majority. All because of that cunning woman. "Could I ask you why you are voting for Shirley?" he asked the commuter (a first-time voter named Janet, aged 18). "Because I've heard of her", Janet replied.

I suppose one should not feel sympathy for so distrusted a class as politicians but the sheer irrationality of democracy sometimes wins one over to their side. "Now that's interesting", Mr Butcher said. "You're voting for her because you've heard of her. Have you heard of me?" "Yes. You put a leaflet through our door."

So she *had* heard of him, one observed. Contrary to her first reply, she had heard of both him and Shirley. Why, then, was she against him? Was it because she did not like having things put through her door? As a reason for her choice, that would have been no less irrational than many of the other explanations being produced by Crosby's electorate for their impending decision.

Mr Butcher abandoned his questioning of Janet. He lacks staying power. He repositioned himself at the top of the station stairs in front of the wave of commuters from the next train. (We were on Formby Station in the second most staunchly Conservative part of the constituency after the town of Crosby itself). A BBC camera crew hovered nearby to make him look ridiculous for some programme on the election. He cooperated.

Suddenly, commuters surged up the stairs. He was standing too near the top. So they did not have a chance to slow down before seeing him. Instead, all they saw was this man in a light-brown camel-haired coat and a blue rosette suffused in a television light. One after another the commuters collided with his outstretched hand as if they were those little dots on the space invader machines.

"Hello, I am John Butcher, hello. I am John Butcher. I am John Butcher." He is not a particularly vain man as Conservative candidates go, but it did not seem to occur to him that people's first reaction maybe to ask of themselves the question: Who is John Butcher?

They returned the handshake and passed instantly on. No one was impolite.

Yet, like generations of candidates before him, Mr Butcher pressed on. What else could he do? He is the candidate for the governing party at a by-election in mid-Parliament. No doubt he would have liked to have fought his safe Conservative seat at a happier time. But politics is almost entirely a matter of luck. He has had a bad press, but that is partly because, contrary to the theory of the Tory-dominated media, individual Tories do not generally get on with individual by-election reporters.

He also has been dogged by more than usual ill fortune in this area.

Tentative peace offer at ITN

The television technicians union, ACTT, offered last night to end its four-day-old strike at Independent Television News if management referred the dispute to the industry's agreed arbitration

BL challenges big rate increases

Rates increases on its car plants running into millions of pounds were challenged by BL yesterday in the High Court. BL Cars, still struggling to achieve economic solvency, faces a total rate bill this year for its factories in Birmingham of £5.54m, and in Coventry, a further £2.35m.

In a rare move under section 7 of the 1967 General Rate Act, the company and several of its subsidiaries are challenging a rate of 150.3p in the £ made in Coventry on March 10, 1981.

Ford lays off 2,000 at Halewood

Two thousand workers at Halewood, Merseyside, were laid off at lunchtime yesterday because of a dispute over discipline. The lay-offs came after a worker in the assembly plant was suspended

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Tomorrow's events

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh give luncheon party for those attending meeting of the European Council in London, Buckingham Palace, 1. The Prince and Princess of Wales also attend.

The Duke of Edinburgh, chairman of National Federation of Housing Associations working party on rural housing, chairs conference, Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, Adelphi, 9.25 am; as honorary Fellow of Zoological Society of London attends society's symposium on animal disease, Regents Park, 3.20; and attends dinner given by Institute of Economic Affairs, 2 Lord North Street, London, 7.45.

The Prince of Wales receives Honorary Doctorate of Music, Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Road, 3.

Princess Anne opens Gunnar Nilsson Radiotherapy Unit, Charing Cross Hospital, 2.30, and, as Chancellor of the University of London, attends Foundation Day, 6.15.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits Royal College of Music, 3.30.

Princess Margaret presents Champion Children of the Year Awards in aid of Barnardo's, of which she is president, Savoy Hotel, 12.30.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester attends reception, RAF Brampton, Cambridgeshire, 3.

The Duke of Gloucester, as president, Cancer Research Campaign, opens Association of Medical Research charities exhibition, Fortress House, Savile Row, 11.35, and attends Swan Feast of the Worshipful Company of Vintners, Vintners' Hall, 7.15.

Talks, lectures

Rubens as a draughtsman, National Gallery, 1.

"Origins of reactor systems", Professor M. Gowing, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, London, 6.

"Prehistoric pottery in the museum collection", Jean Macdonald, Museum of London, London Wall, 1.10.

Exhibitions

Sir Hugh Owen, centenary, Hugh Owen Library, Penglais Campus, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, 9-5.30.

Britain's North Sea oil and gas, museum and art galleries, High Street, Paisley, 10-5.

M. A. Textile Shows 1981, Faculty of Art and Design, Birmingham Polytechnic, Gosta Green, Birmingham, 10-5.

Memorial service

Thanksgiving Service for the life and ministry of Richard Howard, Provost Emeritus, Coventry Cathedral, 12.30.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Uefa Cup, third round, first leg; Two League Cup, third round, replays; four FA Cup, first round, replays; two first division and two second division matches (see page 22).

Racing: Meetings at Haydock Park (1.0) and Ludlow (12.45).

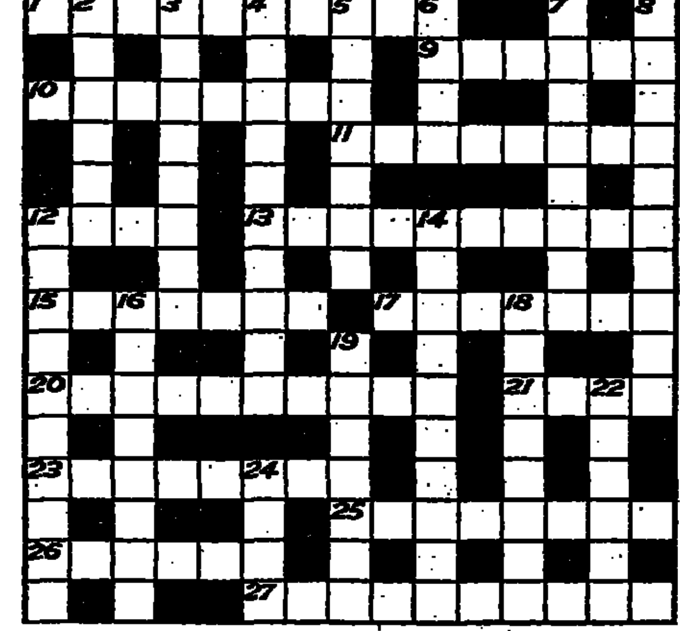
Sport on TV

BBC1: 9.35, Sportsnight.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, second reading. Lords (2.30): Debates on relationship between European Nato countries and America and on steps to encourage employers to expand their workforces.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,689



ACROSS

1 Facsimile of journalist's work R Bacon first revised (6,4).
9 Egghead — poor rival for Don's former sweetheart (6).
10 Record of 17th Century fireplace (8).
11 Design to give dance as wedding present (5-4).
12 Outfits to examine carefully (4).
13 Part of the movement that led to 15 (10).
15 These fighters release titled brother (7).
17 To curb consumption is of no avail (7).
20 Banged a kind of bell and had speech stopped (6,4).
21 Stripped under endless difficulty (4).
23 Such hands are liable to decline responsibility (8).
25 Bird's openings to nest under that church (8).
26 On paper, rubber has no visible effect (6).
27 Royal household's gaming board? (5,5).

DOWN

2 A grand means of escape, I concluded, for a rodent (6).
3 Musical title suggests that Eliza wasn't one (8).
4 One over the eight? This provides timely rescue (10).
5 Beat footman who's not in step (7).
6 Outcry in Shetland (4).
7 Veronica's view (5-3).
8 What's left of unsavoury mouthful (5,5).
12 Flattery is silly, observed the German (4,6).
14 Stop-go device of press (4-6).
16 Primitive Italian form of centaurs (8).
18 Ship's arrival causes collapse of country (8).
19 Enter undisturbed by old French general (7).
22 Cheated firm beginning to trade in Oxfordshire (6).
24 Composer's main danger (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,688

The Times list of best-selling books

Hardback			
Robot	Jan Pienkowski	Heinemann	£5.95
Midnight Children	Salman Rushdie	Cape	£8.95
Guinness Book of Records		Guinness	£4.98
Indecent Obsession	Colleen McCullough	Macdonald	£6.95
In and Out of the Garden	Sara Midda	Sidgwick & Jackson	£5.95
HRH The Princess Margaret; A Life Unfulfilled	Nigel Dempster	Quartet	£7.95
Twice Shy	Dick Francis	Michael Joseph	£6.95
The Lyle Official Antiques Review, 1982		Lyle Publications	£7.50
The Day Job	Terry Wogan	Queen Anne Press	£5.95
Fighter Pilot	Duff Hart-Davis and Colin Strong	BBC	£8.95

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammick's to 480 bookshops and verified retail sales through eight Hammick's bookshops and 20 others.

Ferry cancellations

Ferry services have been disrupted in the North Sea by bad weather, and are threatened from midnight tonight by a seamen's strike on Irish Sea services. The folowing are the companies' predictions for their services today, with numbers for passengers to ring if their departures are in doubt:

Hoverspeed: Normal services expected. 0304-20813.

DFDS: Departures from Harwich to either Bremerhaven or Hamburg, and to Esbjerg. For inquiries on German sailings, 02555 8933; on Danish sailings, 01-481 3211.

North Sea Ferries: Normal services expected. 0482 795141.

Olsen: No sailings scheduled.

Prins Ferries: No sailings until Thursday. 02555-8933.

P & O: Channel services operating normally. Freight services subject to industrial action, which has stopped some ships.

Tor Line: Sailings from Felixstowe cancelled. Next scheduled departure Friday, 15.30: 03942-73131.

Sealink: Chanenl and North Sea services normal. 01-828 6565. For Irish sea services after midnight: 01-828 4475.

Townsend Thoresen: Normal services expected. For Irish Sea services from midnight: 0574-4321.

Roads

Scotland: M8: one lane closed both directions between junction 29 (A726 St James's interchange) and junction 30 (M898 Craigton interchange). Edinburgh: The Low Road, Holyrood Park, closed between Duddingston and roundabout near Commonwealth Pool. A92: Kircaldy to Inverkeithing road. Reconstruction at junction with A987 (west of Aberdour), extreme caution. A1: Delays at Penmanshiel, Berwickshire.

Wales and the West: M5: Junction 17 and 18 (Bristol) outside lane only southbound; two-way flow northbound. M4: Lane closures both carriageways between junction 15 (A345 Swindon) and junction 17 (A429 Chippenham). A40/A449: Two-way traffic on one carriageway through tunnel, near Monmouth.

Today's anniversaries

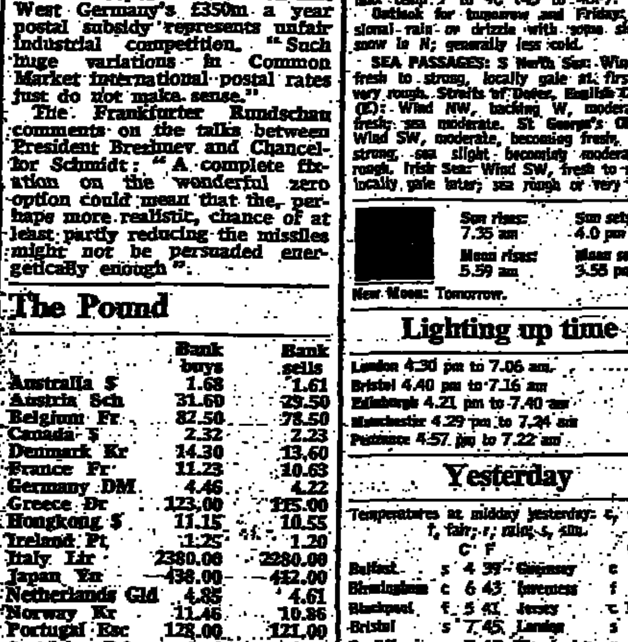
Lope de Vega was born in Madrid, 1562, and Andrew Carnegie in Dunfermline, 1835.

The papers

Mr Michael Foot has finally settled who gets what job in his Shadow Cabinet, the *Daily Mirror* says. n a way it is an improvement. If the Labour Party must have policies of one-sided disarmament and withdrawal from the EEC it is better that their spokesman should believe in them. But Mr Foot knows that shuffling his Shadows is the easy part. Unless Labour wins back the support of the voters, the Shadows will remain actors on an empty stage.

The *Morning Telegraph*, Sheffield, supports a local complaint to the European Commission that West Germany's £350m a year postal subsidy represents unfair industrial competition. "Such huge variations in Common Market international postal rates just do not make sense."

The *Frankfurter Rundschau* comments on the talks between President Brezhnev and Chancellor Schmidt: "A complete fixation on the wonderful zero option could mean that the, perhaps more realistic, chance of at least partly reducing the missiles might not be persuaded energetically enough".



The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.68	1.61
Austria Sch	31.60	29.50
Belgium Fr	82.50	78.50
Canada $	2.32	2.23
Denmark Kr	14.30	13.60
France Fr	11.23	10.63
Germany DM	4.46	4.22
Greece Dr	123.00	115.00
Hongkong $	11.15	10.55
Ireland Pt	1.25	1.20
Italy Lir	2380.00	2280.00
Japan Yn	438.00	412.00
Netherlands Gld	4.85	4.61
Norway Kr	11.46	10.86
Portugal Esc	128.00	121.00
S Africa Rd	1.84	1.68
Spain Pta	191.50	182.50
Switzerland Fr	3.60	3.38
US $	1.96	1.89

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* Index rose 2.2 to 520.0.

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Weather

A weak ridge of high pressure will cross all areas. A trough of low pressure will move into NW areas later.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central S, SW England, Channel Islands: Dry, bright or sunny periods; wind mainly W, light; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

E Anglia, E, NE England: Isolated showers on exposed coasts dying out, sunny intervals; wind W, moderate but occasionally fresh at first; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

Midlands, Wales, NW, Central N England: Dry with bright or sunny periods but becoming cloudier later; wind W to NW, light or moderate, becoming SW later; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Dry and bright at first, but becoming cloudy with rain later, snow on hills; wind W to SW light or moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney: Showers, wintry over hills, dying out, sunny intervals; wind NW, fresh or strong, moderating during the day; max temp 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

Shetland: Wintry showers, some heavy, hail and thunder possible; wind NW, strong or gale, moderating during day; max temp 3 to 5C (37 to 41F).

N Ireland: Dry and bright at first, rain preceded by snow over the hills spreading from W later; wind SW, light or moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Occasional rain or drizzle with some sleet or snow in N; generally less cold.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind NW, fresh to strong, locally gale at first; sea very rough. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NW, backing W, moderate or fresh; sea moderate. St George's Channel: Wind SW, moderate, becoming fresh, locally strong, sea slight becoming moderate to rough. Irish Sea: Wind SW, fresh to strong, locally gale later; sea rough or very rough.

Sun rises: 7.35 am | Sun sets: 4.0 pm
Moon rises: 5.59 am | Moon sets: 3.55 pm

New Moon: Tomorrow.

Lighting up time

London 4.30 pm to 7.06 am
Bristol 4.40 pm to 7.16 am
Edinburgh 4.21 pm to 7.40 am
Manchester 4.29 pm to 7.24 am
Penzance 4.57 pm to 7.22 am

Yesterday

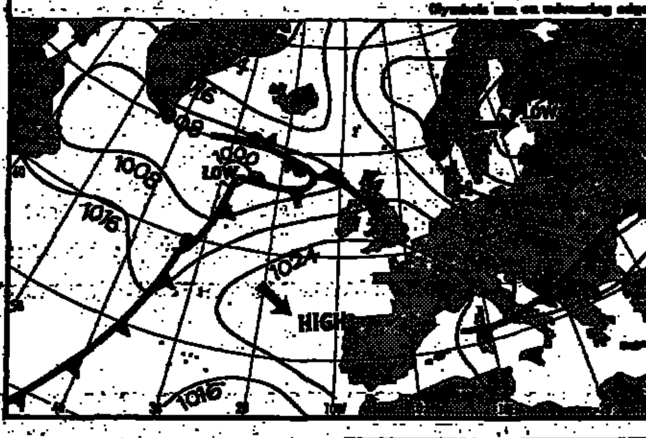
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

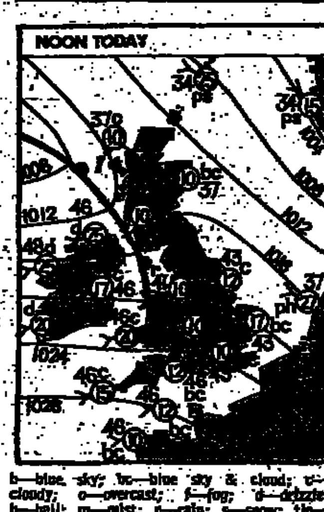
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	4	39	Guernsey	c	9	48
Birmingham	c	6	43	Inverness	f	2	36
Blackpool	f	5	41	Jersey	c	10	50
Bristol	s	7	45	London	s	8	46
Cardiff	s	7	45	Manchester	r	5	41
Edinburgh	s	4	39	Newcastle	s	5	41
Glasgow	s	4	39	Ronaldsway	s	5	41

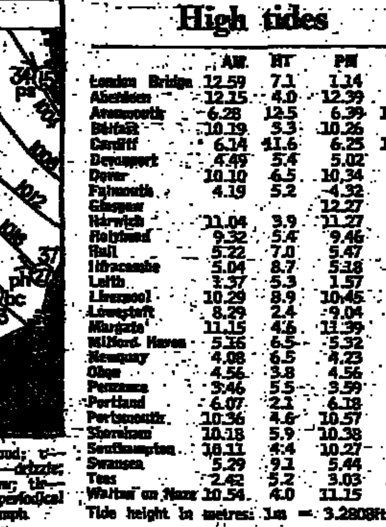
Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

LONDON: Cosmos 185R: 17.39-17.48; NW; 40SW; S. Cosmos 236R: 04.27-04.28; ENE*; 20 ENE; ENE and 06.01-06.05; WNW*; 85WNW; ESE. Aryabhata R: 04.55-04.56; SE; 10SE; SE and 06.30-06.37; SW; 35SE; E. Salyut 6: 16.50-16.56; W; 85NE; E and 18.26-18.28; W; 35W; W*.





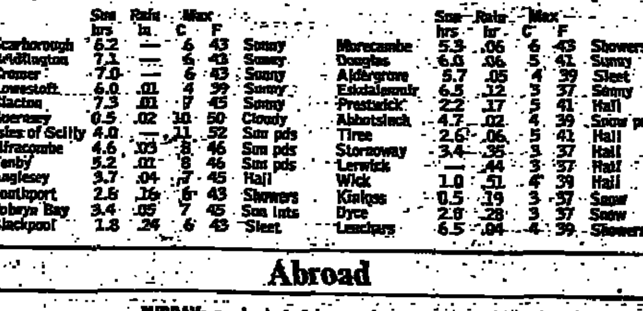


b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.59	7.1	1.14	7.0
Aberdeen	12.15	4.0	12.39	4.1
Avonmouth	6.28	12.5	6.39	12.5
Belfast	10.19	3.3	10.26	3.4
Cardiff	6.14	11.6	6.25	11.6
Devonport	4.49	5.4	5.02	5.4
Dover	10.10	6.5	10.34	6.4
Falmouth	4.19	5.2	4.32	5.2
Glasgow			12.27	3.9
Harwich	11.04	3.9	11.27	3.9
Holyhead	9.32	5.4	9.46	5.4
Hull	5.22	7.0	5.47	7.0
Ilfracombe	5.04	8.7	5.18	8.7
Leith	1.37	5.3	1.57	5.3
Liverpool	10.29	8.9	10.45	8.8
Lowestoft	8.29	2.4	9.04	2.4
Margate	11.15	4.6	11.39	4.6
Milford Haven	5.16	6.5	5.32	6.6
Newquay	4.08	6.5	4.23	6.6
Oban	4.56	3.8	4.56	3.8
Penzance	3.46	5.5	3.59	5.5
Portland	6.07	2.1	6.18	2.0
Portsmouth	10.36	4.6	10.57	4.5
Shoreham	10.18	5.9	10.38	5.8
Southampton	10.11	4.4	10.27	4.3
Swansea	5.29	9.1	5.44	9.1
Tees	2.42	5.2	3.03	5.3
Walton on Naze	10.54	4.0	11.15	4.1

Tide height in metres: 1m = 3.2808ft.



Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	6.2	—	6	43	Sunny
Bridlington	7.1	—	6	43	Sunny
Cromer	7.0	—	6	43	Sunny
Lowestoft	6.0	.01	4	39	Sunny
Clacton	7.3	.01	7	45	Sunny
Guernsey	0.5	.02	10	50	Cloudy
Isles of Scilly	4.0	—	11	52	Sun pds
Ilfracombe	4.6	.03	8	46	Sun pds
Tenby	5.2	.01	8	46	Sun pds
Anglesey	3.7	.04	7	45	Hail
Southport	2.6	.16	6	43	Showers
Colwyn Bay	3.4	.05	7	45	Sun ints
Blackpool	1.8	.24	6	43	Sleet
Morecambe	5.3	.06	6	43	Showers
Douglas	6.0	.06	5	41	Sunny
Aldergrove	5.7	.05	4	39	Sleet
Eskdalemuir	6.5	.12	3	37	Sunny
Prestwick	2.2	.17	5	41	Hail
Abbotsinch	4.7	.02	4	39	Snow pm
Tiree	2.6	.06	5	41	Hail
Stornoway	3.4	.35	3	37	Hail
Lerwick	—	.44	3	37	Hail
Wick	1.0	.51	4	39	Hail
Kinloss	0.5	.19	3	37	Snow
Dyce	2.8	.28	3	37	Snow
Leuchars	6.5	.04	4	39	Showers

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	16	61	Casablanca	s	21	70	Las Palmas	f	23	73	Reykjavik	s	-11	12
Akrotiri	s	21	70	Cologne	r	4	39	Lisbon	s	20	68	Rhodes	s	18	64
Alexandria	f	21	70	Copenhagen	r	6	43	Locarno	c	12	54	Riyadh	s	20	68
Algiers	s	22	72	Corfu	f	16	61	Luxembourg	r	4	39	Rome	f	17	63
Amsterdam	c	6	43	Dublin	s	4	39	Madrid	f	13	55	Salzburg	r	8	46
Athens	s	19	66	Dubrovnik	f	16	61	Majorca	f	19	66	Seoul	s	5	41
Bahrain	s	22	72	Faro	s	21	70	Malaga	s	20	68	Stockholm	c	4	39
Barcelona	f	16	61	Florence	c	14	57	Malta	f	19	66	Strasbourg	s	9	48
Beirut	s	20	68	Frankfurt	f	7	45	Milan	c	10	50	Sydney	s	22	72
Belgrade	s	16	61	Funchal	c	21	70	Moscow	sn	0	32	Tangier	s	23	73
Berlin	r	6	43	Geneva	c	10	50	Munich	c	5	41	Tenerife	s	24	75
Biarritz	f	19	66	Gibraltar	f	18	64	Naples	c	16	61	Tokyo	s	16	61
Boulogne	f	7	45	Helsinki	f	4	39	New York				Tunis	s	19	66
Bordeaux	c	14	57	Hongkong	c	23	73	Nice	s	14	57	Venice	c	8	46
Brussels	s	6	43	Innsbruck	f	8	46	Oslo	c	1	34	Vienna	r	13	55
Budapest	s	13	55	Istanbul	s	15	59	Paris	c	8	46	Warsaw	s	7	45
Cairo	f	21	70	Jeddah	s	29	84	Peking	s	4	39	Washington			
Capetown	s	27	81	Johannesburg	f	22	72	Prague	s	7	45	Zurich	r	8	46